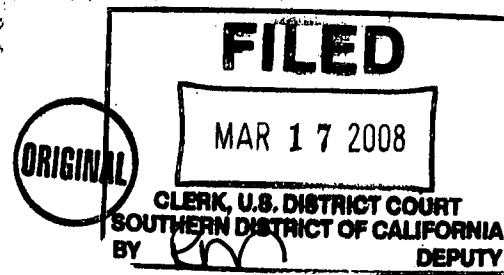


1 YOUR NAME *Elmer R. Bautista*
2 YOUR ADDRESS *P.O. Box 3471-3002-102*
2 YOUR TELEPHONE NUMBER



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
(Must start on line 8 or below)

Elmer R. Bautista
Petitioner

2254	✓	1983
FILING FEE PAID		
Yes	No	✓
HTP MOTION FILED		
Yes	✓	No
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Court	✓	Profe

'08 CV 0495 JAH BLM
Case No. (To be assigned at time of filing)

COMPLAINT FOR (Brief description of document)

Plaintiff alleges:

Table of Content

2	<u>Superior Ct. No. G.A.05.1210</u>
3	<u>2d Crim. Nos. B-173331 & B-174565</u>
4	<u>Motions Counsel Appointed & Evidentiary Hearing</u>
5	<u>INTRODUCTION</u> 1- 20
6	<u>Statement of Case</u>
7	<u>Restitution Hearing</u>
8	<u>Statement of Appealability - Appeal No. B-173331 - Appeal No. B-174565</u>
9	<u>NOTICE OF JOINER</u>
10	<u>Statement of the Facts - Counts 1-2-4-5-6-7-11-12-13-14</u>
11	<u>The July 2-2001 Taco Bell Burglary and related charges</u>
12	<u>The Taco Bell Incident</u>
13	<u>The Investigation of the Taco Bell Incident</u>
14	<u>Count 8-9-10</u>
15	<u>The June 18-2001, EL Pollo Loco Burglary and Related Charges</u>
16	<u>The EL Pollo Loco Burglary</u>
17	<u>The Investigation of the Pollo Loco Burglary</u>
18	
19	<u>Ground 7 ARGUMENT - Appeal from the Judgment No. B-173331</u>
20	<u>The trial COURT VIOLATED APPELLANT BAUTISTA'S FIFTH AND FOUR-</u>
21	<u>TEENTH AMENDMENT RIGHTS WHEN IT ADMITTED HIS POST-ARREST</u>
22	<u>STATEMENT TAKEN WITHOUT ASKING IF HE GAVE UP HIS RIGHT</u>
23	<u>TO REMAIN SILENT</u>
24	<u>A- Standard and Scope of review</u> 21- 26
25	<u>B- The officer NEVER inquired as to whether Appellant Bautista gave</u>
26	<u>up his fifth amendment right to remain silent</u>
27	<u>C- Appellant statement should have been excluded because under</u>
28	<u>the circumstances it was not voluntary</u>

1 Ground #2

2 THE COURT ERRED IN ADMITTING APPELLANT BAUTISTA'S
 3 STATEMENT IN REDACTED FORM WHICH ELIMINATED EXONER-
 4 ATING PORTIONS, THIS DEPRIVING HIM OF A FAIR TRIAL AND
 5 DUE PROCESS

27- 37

6 A- Severe redaction of Appellant's Statement to avoid
 7 Separate Trials Deprived him of Exonerating State of mind
 8 Evidence

9 1. Standard of review

10 2. The trial court abused its discretion because the redaction
 11 operated to appellant Bautista's detriment

12 B- Counsel Rendered Ineffective Assistance By failing to object
 13 to a joint Trial

14 1. Standard of review

15 2. On these facts, no reasonable attorney would have forgone
 16 a motion to sever

17 3. Counsel's error was prejudicial

18 4. Admission of the redacted statement was error of consti-
 19 tutional dimension

20
21 Ground #3

22 THE PROSECUTOR IMPROPERLY COMMENTED ON NON-EVIDENCE
 23 AND ON APPELLANT'S PURPORTED FAILURE TO IDENTIFY OTHERS
 24 INVOLVED IN THE TACO BELL AFFAIR-MORE ERRORS OF CONSTITUTIONAL
 25 IMPORT.

38- 55

26 A- standard Review

27 B- Arguing false facts to the jury Constituted Prejudicial Prosec-
 28 utorial Misconduct.

1 C- The issue of Prosecutorial Misconduct has been preserved
2 for appellate review

3 D- The prosecutor's Comment on appellant's Alleged Failure to
4 Give the Police Additional Information was Griffin Error
5 of Constitutional Proportion

6 1. Standard of review

7 2. The prosecutor's argument fell within Griffin's prohibition

8 E- Prejudicial Prosecutorial Misconduct Generated Serious
9 Constitutional Violations

10 Ground #4

11 ADMISSION OF HEARSAY IN THE GUISE OF SPONTANEOUS

12 STATEMENTS DEPRIVED APPELLANT OF A FAIR TRIAL AND

13 DUE PROCESS

14 A- Standard of review

15 B- The trial court Erred in Admitting the hearsay because

16 it fell outside the ambit of evidence Code § 1240

17 C- Erroneous Admission of the Hearsay evidence was Prejudicial

18 56 - 64

19 Ground #5

20 THE VERDICTS IN COUNTS 8 9 AND 10 THE EL POLLO Loco

21 INCIDENT, SHOULD BE REVERSED FOR INSUFFICIENT

22 EVIDENCE

23 A- Standard of review

24 B- Because the eyewitness identifications were not credible

25 Appellant's convictions should be reversed.

26 65 - 69

1 Ground #

2 INSTRUCTIONAL ERRORS DEPRIVED APPELLANT OF A
3 FAIR TRIAL AND DUE PROCESS

4 A- Scope and standard of review

5 B- No part of CALJIC NO. 3.02 should have been granted onto
6 NO. 3.00 Because the prosecution's Theory was that both
7 defendants were Principals

8 1- Instruction NO. 3.00 was defective because the Court never
9 defined the target crimes

10 2. Modified instruction NO. 3.00 generated irreparable
11 Prejudice

12 C- The Trial Court erred in not limiting CALJIC NO. 2.06
13 to Codefendant Moran because it was his family who
14 Allegedly Threatened Prosecution witness Janette A.

15 1. CALJIC NO. 2.06 Should not have been given

16 2. By not limiting the instruction to Moran the court invited
17 the Jury to speculate that appellant Bautista was in
18 on the threats

19 D. Appellant Bautista's Convictions should be reversed for
20 Prejudicial Instructional Errors 70-87

21 Ground #

22 CUMULATIVE ERROR IN THIS CLOSE CASE DEPRIVED APPELLANT
23 OF A FAIR TRIAL AND CONSTITUTED A MISCARRIAGE OF
24 JUSTICE 87-94

25 A- The many errors created irreparable Prejudice

26 B- Reversal is required because this was a close case where
27 the Prejudicial Errors had a devastating effect on Appellant's

1 Constitutional right to a Fair Trial

2 ALLEGIMENT

3 Appeal from post-Judgment Restitution Order, No. B124565

4

5 Ground #

6 THE TRIAL COURT ERRED IN IMPOSING A. \$41,000 RESTITUTION
7 PINE BECAUSE THIS SUM FAR EXCEEDED THE VICTIM'S
8 ACTUAL NET LOSS

9 A- Standard of Review

94-101

10 B- Requiring Defendants to Pay Restitution as a Pass Through
11 to the Worker's Compensation insurer violates the Plain
12 Language of § 1202.4

13 C- Imposing a restitution award atop the worker's Compensation
14 benefits Clives Martinez a Double recovery

15 D- The \$26,000 award for Lost wages should be reduced
16 to \$11,880 the amount of Martinez actual lost wages

17 E- The Restitution fine should be Reversed because it constitutes
18 Cruel and Unusual Punishment of appellant and
19 His family

20 Additional

21 ELMER Bautista Police Report

102-106

22

23 Ground 9

24 Petitioner Conviction was obtained to ineffective
25 Assistance of Counsel A Violation of Petitioner 6th Amendment
26 Due Process therefore Petitioner Challenges
27 Courts 4-14 Oral Copulation-Rape

107-114

1 Ground 10

115 - 122

2 Petitioner Conviction is based on mere speculations and a
3 Miscarriage of Justice which Petitioner will Present to
4 the Court evidence and not speculations that said
5 Counts "DO NOT" apply to petitioner in a Motion fashion

6

7 Declaration

123 - 129

8 Response to Superior Court denial

130 - 133

9 Memorandum

10 Point E Authorities

11 Miranda vs Arizona

Pg. 21

12 People vs Ochoa

13 People vs Bradford

14 People vs Neal

Pg. 22

15 People vs Crittenden

16 Miranda vs Arizona

17 People vs Sims

18 Moran vs Burbine

19 Edwards vs Arizona

Pg. 23

20 Johnson vs Zerbst

21 People vs Manis

Pg. 26

22 People vs Davis

Pg. 27

23 People vs Fletcher

24 People vs Alvarez

Pg. 28

25 People vs Pohlboer

26 People vs Greenberger

27 People vs Aranda

Pg. 29

1	People vs Hill	Pg. 30
2	People vs Fletcher	Pg. 31
3	Price vs Superior Court	
4	Chambers vs Mississippi	
5	United States vs Robinson	
6	United States vs Armstrong	
7	People vs Douglas	
8	People vs Aranda	
9	Bruton vs United States	
10	People vs Tealer	Pg. 32
11	People vs Matola	
12	People vs Pisholster	Pg. 33
13	People vs Hill	
14	People vs Arias	
15	People vs Boyd	
16	Strickland vs Washington	Pg. 35
17	People vs Watson	Pg. 36
18	Chapman vs California	
19	People vs Schmaus	
20	People vs Douglas	
21	People vs Varano	Pg. 38
22	People vs Farnam	Pg. 40
23	People vs Acevedo	
24	People vs Talle	
25	Banks vs Dretke	Pg. 42
26	People vs Lawley	
27	People vs Brown	
28	People vs Hall	

- 1 People vs Guzman
- 2 People vs Arragen
- 3 People vs Varnas
- 4 People vs Schiers Pg. 43
- 5 Banks vs Dretke
- 6 People vs Cunningham Pg. 44
- 7 People vs Pitts Pg. 47
- 8 Griffin vs California Pg. 48
- 9 People vs Hardy
- 10 Griffin vs California
- 11 People vs Clair
- 12 United State vs Robinson Pg. 49
- 13 People vs Medina
- 14 People vs Mendoza Pg. 50
- 15 People vs Tealer
- 16 People vs Guzman
- 17 People vs Tealer Pg. 51
- 18 People vs Medina
- 19 People vs Hackett Pg. 52
- 20 People vs Milder Pg. 53
- 21 Chapman vs California
- 22 People vs Clair
- 23 People vs Guzman
- 24 People vs Daggett Pg. 54
- 25 C.F. People vs Fletcher
- 26 People vs Varna
- 27 People vs Douglas
- 28 People vs Matola

1	<u>People vs Dawson</u>	
2	<u>People vs Prettyman</u>	Pg. 26
3	<u>People vs Sakarias</u>	
4	<u>People vs Culuka</u>	Pg. 29
5	<u>People vs Prettyman</u>	Pg. 80
6	<u>People vs Sakarias</u>	
7	<u>People vs Hickles</u>	
8	<u>People vs Morton</u>	
9	<u>People vs Prettyman</u>	Pg. 81
10	<u>People vs Hickles</u>	
11	<u>People vs Prettyman</u>	
12	<u>People vs Hickles</u>	Pg. 82
13	<u>People vs Giardino</u>	
14	<u>People vs Williams</u>	Pg. 84
15	<u>People vs Hannon</u>	
16	<u>People vs Williams</u>	
17	<u>People vs Terry</u>	
18	<u>People vs Hannon</u>	
19	<u>People vs Perry</u>	Pg. 86
20	<u>People vs Saunders</u>	Pg. 82
21	<u>People vs Jensen</u>	Pg. 88
22	<u>People vs Harris</u>	
23	<u>Chapman vs California</u>	
24	<u>People vs Hill</u>	Pg. 89
25	<u>People vs Cuccia</u>	
26	<u>People vs Hernandez</u>	
27	<u>People vs Moore</u>	Pg. 90
28	<u>People vs Walker</u>	Pg. 91

1 People vs Pearch
2 Maquin vs ~~widling~~
3 People vs Fuentes
4 People vs Kennedy Pg. 96
5 People vs Birkett
6 People vs Birkett Pg. 97
7 People vs O. Casey Pg. 98
8 People vs Molay
9 People vs Birkett Pg. 100
10 Fitzpatrick vs Fidelity & Casualty Co.
11 Torres vs Parkhouse Pg. 101
12 Scott vs Pacific Coast Borax Co.
13
14
15
16
17
18
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21
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INTRODUCTION

In these consolidated appeals, Elmer Rafael Bautista appeals from (1) a judgement of conviction of commercial burglaries, Kidnap, robbery, and related counts arising out of the robberies at two restaurants a Taco Bell and an El Pollo Loco (No. B-123331) and (2) from a post trial order imposing a restitution fine of \$41,000 (No. B-124565). The court sentenced Petitioner a taxi driver by profession (2 C.J. 287) to a determinate sentence plus two consecutive life terms.

Petitioner Bautista was tried with co-defendant, Antonio Moran. The primary joint defense to the Taco Bell offenses was that one of the complainants, Janette A. was an accomplice and not a victim. (7 RT 1829.) Taco Bell's loss prevention manager sent a fax (BB) to the Glendale Police Department stating that he had received information that victim Janette A. might have been a participant in the burglary, "although he retracted that suspicion at trial. (Compare 7-RT 2172 with 7-RT 2175.) Bautista's individual defense was that he was involved only in two commercial burglaries, i.e., Taco Bell and an ATM machine (4 RT 72.) Bautista's defense to the El Pollo Loco burglary and related offenses was misidentification (4 RT 73.)

Petitioner Bautista's conviction should be reversed because:

(1)

The court violated Petitioner's constitutional rights under (Miranda) by admitting his post-arrest statements regarding the Taco Bell burglary

1 which was taken without asking Bautista if he gave up his right to remain
2 silent

3 (2)

4 Compounding the (Miranda) error, the Court admitted a redacted version
5 of Bautista's statement which eliminated all exonerating material, thus
6 casting the major onus of the crimes on Bautista.

7 (3)

8 Further aggravating the error, the Court permitted the prosecutor to use
9 the redacted version of Bautista statement to argue falsely that he
10 did not identify others involved in the Taco Bell affair.

11 (4)

12 The erroneous admission of hearsay in the guise of spontaneous statements
13 deprived Petitioner of a fair trial and due process violation of 14 Amend
14 ant

15 (5)

16 The convictions related to the El Pollo Loco incident, Counts 8, 9, and
17 10 are not supported by sufficient evidence

18 (6)

19 Instructional errors deprived Petitioner of a fair trial and due process.

20 (7)

21 Cumulative error in this case deprived Petitioner of a fair trial and
22 constituted a miscarriage of Justice.

23 (8)

24 The post-Judgement restitution order which is the subject of the second
25 appeal should also be reversed because the trial court erred in imposing
26 a \$41,000 restitution fine when the victim's net loss was at most, \$11,000.

27

28

1 Statement of the Case

2 Counts for Offense

3 (1) 209(b)(1) Kidnap (of Martinez) to commit robbery;

4 (2) 209(b)(1) Kidnap (of Martinez) to Commit robbery from Automated Teller Machine;

5 (3) Charged against Codefendant Moran only;

6 (4) 288 (a) (c) (2), Oral Copulation (Janette A.);

7 (5) 211 Second degree burglary of Taco Bell;

8 (6) 211 second degree burglary of (Martinez at Taco Bell);

9 (7) 211 Second degree robbery (of \$10 from Martinez's wallet);

10 (8) 211 second degree burglary (of El Pollo Loco);

11 (9) 211 second degree robbery (of Black);

12 (10) 211 second degree robbery (of Estrada);

13 (11) 209(b)(1) Kidnap (of Janette A.) to commit robbery;

14 (12) Charged against Codefendant Moran only; dismissed;

15 (13) Dismissed (1-RT 5483)

16 (14) 209(b)(1) Kidnap (of Janette A.) to commit rape;

18 Personal use and principal armed allegations accompanied all
19 Counts (2-CT 338, 348, 358.) Petitioner pled not guilty and denied
20 the allegations. (2-CT 359) He also demurred to the section 12022.53.

22 Petitioner was tried with Codefendant, Antonio "Taco" Moran, who
23 was not charged with all the same counts. A third participant
24 Gullermina "Neno" Sandoval, was not apprehended (see 2-RT D-14; 3-RT
25 012-015.) subdivision (b) allegation in Count 5 and 8 (2-CT 359;
26 4-RT 43.) The court sustained the demurcer. (2-CT 365; 4-RT
27 303.)

1 Trial by Jury commenced on March 10-2003, (1-CT-232.) This was
2 quickly followed by a motion for mistrial based on prosecutorial
3 misconduct during voir dire- a harbinger of what was to come. In
4 the presence of potential jurors, the prosecutor stated that this was
5 a life case. Jurors are not supposed to know about punishment.
6 (Aug. RT 4.) The defense moved for a mistrial based upon the prosec-
7 utor's improper comment. The court denied the motion, (2 CT 297-298;
8 Aug 4.)

9

10 The prosecutor and defense Counsel made opening statements on
11 April 2-2003. (2-CT-360.) All sides rested on April 1-28-2003 (13 RT
12 544.) Court and Counsel conferred regarding jury instructions
13 on April 28, 29, 30, May 1, 2, 5. (2 CT 445 450 454 458 463 466
14 13 RT 5484.) Arguments began on May 1, 2003 before the court finalized
15 the instructions or prepared the verdict forms. (14 RT 66-23.) Defendants
16 moved unsuccessfully twice for a mistrial based on misrepre-
17 sentations the prosecutor made during closing argument. (2-CT-424-482).
18

19 Petitioner moved for a new trial for prosecutorial misconduct, instruc-
20 tional error, judicial misconduct. (4-RT-910.) This motion was heard
21 by a judge who had not presided over the trial. (See 3-CT 178; 19 RT
22 11401.) The court denied the new trial motion. (4-CT 916.)

23

24 The court sentenced Petitioner to 26 years, eight months plus two
25 consecutive life terms with possibility of parole on Count I and II, the
26 section 209 subdivision (b) (1), offenses. (4-CT- 916-922; RT 11490-11498.)
27

1 The court imposed a restitution fine pursuant to section 1202.4
2 subdivision (b), in the amount of \$4,400, and a parole restitution
3 fine pursuant to section 1202.45 in the amount of \$4,400 stayed.
4 (4-CT-922; 19RT-11529) The court further imposed a \$20.00 Court
5 security charge pursuant to Government Code Section 69926,
6 subdivision (a), a \$10.00 Crime prevention fine pursuant to
7 section 1202.5, and a \$10.00 fine pursuant to section 288,
8 subdivision (m). (4-CT-924; 19RT-11505-11506, 11529.) Petitioner
9 was given 1090 days of precommitment credits. (4-CT-932; 19RT
10 11532.) The court order a restitution hearing (19RT-11534)

11

12 Restitution Hearing:

13 (Janette A.) elected not to seek restitution. The court held a hear-
14 ing with respects to restitution for (Pedro Martinez) pursuant
15 to section 1202.4.² (CT-65 RT 1) The court awarded \$10,160
16 for doctor's care, \$4,934.34 for medication, and \$26,000 for lost
17 wages, for a total of \$41,094.34. The restitution order was joint
18 and several (RT 29.)

19

20 TAKE NOTICE

21 The name on his medical record is "Pedro Romero" RATHER than
22 "Pedro Martinez" (see CT 69.) Apparently he uses the name "Pedro
23 Romero Martinez" (see RT 3)

24

25 Statement of Appealability

26

27 Appeal NO. B173331; The court sentenced Petitioner on February
28 5-2004. (4-CT-916) The abstract of judgment was filed on March 3-2004.

1 Petitioner filed a timely notice of appeal from the judgment of February
2 5, 2004 (4-Ct 947; Cal. Rules of Court, rule 30.1.) This Court has
3 jurisdiction pursuant to section 1237, subdivision (a).

4

5 Appeal No. B174565: The court held a restitution hearing on
6 April 1-2004 (RT 347.) Petitioner filed a timely notice of appeal
7 on April 8-2004 (RT 347; Cal. Rules of Court, rule 30.1.) This
8 Court has jurisdiction pursuant to section 1237, subdivision (b).

9

10 *Notice of Joinder*

11

12 Petitioner Bautista hereby joins in the briefs filed by Code-
13 fendant Antonio Moran and adopts all of his arguments
14 which may accrue to Petitioner Bautista Benefit. (Cal. Rules of
15 Court rule 13 People v Stone (1981) 117 Cal. App. 3d 15, 19, fn. 5;
16 People v Smith (1970) 4 Cal. App. 3d 41, 44.)

17

18 *Statement of the Facts*

19 Counts 1-2-4-5-6-7-11-12-13-14

20

21 July 2-2001 Taco Bell Burglary and related charges
22 (A)

23 The Taco Bell Incident:

24 Pedro Martinez was the shift manager for a Taco Bell store in
25 Glendale. (4-RT 82-83) The Taco Bell had a time-clock safe.
26 It could only be open from 8:00 in the morning until 10:00 at
27 night (4 RT 88.)

(B)

1 On July 2-2001, the restaurant closed to the public at 2:00 a.m., but
2 Martinez and three other employees (Hayk, Fernando, Janette A.)
3 remained to clean the store because a company inspection was
4 scheduled for the next day. (4 RT 83-85.) They worked until
5 3:00 A.M. Martinez who customarily drove Janette to her home
6 about three blocks from Martinez's home when she worked late
7 at night left with Janette in his own brown Honda. Hayk got a
8 ride home with Fernando (4-RT 94-95); (5 RT 633 705-706, 919.)
9 while driving north on Central Avenue in Glendale, Martinez
10 realized he had a flat tire on the right rear passenger side. There
11 was a slash in the tire. He pulled into the brightly illuminated
12 parking lot of a shopping center to change the tire (4-RT 97-98
13 102; 5 RT 920, 922.)

(C)

15 Martinez started to change the tire. Janette stood nearby examining
16 the flat tire and talking to him. He had completely changed
17 the tire, although the car was still on the jack, when Petitioner
18 Bautista approached (4-RT 98 99 5-RT 924 926 927) Petitioner
19 was wearing a T-shirt and a baseball hat. (5-RT 977.) Janette
20 told Martinez that Bautista had a gun (4-RT 100-101-333) In
21 Spanish Petitioner told the two to get into the rear seat of Martinez'
22 car or be shot. (4-RT-103.) They complied. Petitioner bound Martinez'
23 "hands in front of him with sticky tape and taped Janette's hands
24 together on the top of her head." (4-RT 323-324; 5-RT 627 929-930)
25 "He get then into Martinez's brown Honda and drove off the jack
26 and out of the parking lot." (4-RT-104-105) A blue Chevrolet
27 followed them (4-RT-105)... And he did this all by himself while
28 "Mina & Paco" just watched and Janette and Martinez not once said

1 or question any of Petitioner Bautista's orders they just went and
2 got into the car. They open the door step into the rear seat and
3 wait for Bautista to come and bound their hands Martinez's
4 hands in front, where if he need to strike Bautista he could,
5 and Janette he bound her hands together on top of her head.
6 For whatever his reason where ("PLEASE") and now a blue Chevrolet
7 is following them.

8 (D)

9 Both cars stopped on Windsor Street, the brown Honda behind the
10 blue Chevrolet. Unlike the parking lot where Martinez changed
11 the tire, there was no nearby lighting and no traffic on Windsor
12 (4-RT-107-109) Petitioner took Martinez out of his Honda and entered
13 the back seat where he fondled Janette and insisted that she kiss
14 him or he would shoot her. (5-RT-931-933) Petitioner left the Honda,
15 untied Martinez, and directed him to the front passenger seat of
16 the blue Chevrolet stating they were going to the store to get the
17 money. Martinez tried to tell him about the safe, but Petitioner just
18 wouldn't listen. Bautista told Martinez that if he would not cooperate,
19 Petitioner would shoot him and dump him in the Angeles Crest Mountains.
20 (4-RT-322-325; 5-RT-628-681)

21 (E)

22 Defendant Moran who had been in the blue Chevrolet got into
23 Martinez's Honda (4-RT 341; 5-RT-935.) He was wearing a jacket and
24 a blue fishing style hat (5-RT-928 (Ex. 16 [blue fisherman's hat].))
25 Janette saw another person in the area, wearing a red shirt. But
26 She could not see his face and he did not approach her (5-RT 941)
27 Moran told Janette to bend over and pull her pants. She said she could
28 not because she was having her period. Moran pulled down her pants

1 and sodomized her. (5-RT-936-937.)

2 (F)

3 Meanwhile Petitioner drove Martinez to the Taco Bell. The gun was
4 placed in the space between the two front seat (4 RT-330-335-336.)
5 On the way, a patrol car passed by. Petitioner told Martinez that if they
6 were stopped by the police, Martinez was to say he and Petitioner were
7 friends, and Petitioner was taking Martinez home. (4 RT 331.) They
8 were stopped by a sole officer in a patrol car. (4 RT 332, 336.) Petitioner
9 made a cell phone call, stating they were being stopped by police and
10 if the party to whom he was speaking did not hear from Petitioner in
11 15 minutes, he knew what to do. (4 RT 333.) When the officer approach-
12 ed and ask the Petitioner where they were going, Petitioner told him
13 they were going to Martinez' house. Petitioner told the officer he did
14 not have a driver's license or the registration with him. Then the
15 officer explained the reason for the stop was because the license plate was
16 not showing. The officer let them go. (4 RT 338.)

17 (G)

18 Petitioner returned to Windsor street and told the person inside the
19 Honda that everything was okay and they were to proceed with
20 the plan. (4 RT 339.) Petitioner drove Martinez to the Taco Bell (4 RT
21 342.) Martinez disconnect the alarm and showed Petitioner the safe.
22 (4 RT-343) When Martinez explained the safe would not open, Petitioner
23 punched him. (4 RT-354) Martinez then took \$75.00 from each of the
24 three cash registers and put the money into a plastic bag with the
25 ~~Taco Bell~~ Taco Bell logo on it. On demand Martinez took the \$10 bill he
26 had in his wallet and gave that to the Petitioner who put it into
27 the Taco Bell bag with the rest of the money. (4 RT-355-358)

1 The store had two digital video cameras as part of a close circuit
2 television system (4 RT 2153-2154.) Petitioner put the videotape from
3 the digital video camera in the bag with the money (4 RT 361-362;
4 5 RT 692.) Petitioner's photo was taken during the burglary. (8 RT
5 2751.)

6 (8)

7 Petitioner phoned someone, said Martinez did not want to cooperate,
8 and asked, "What do you want me to do with him?" (4 RT 359.) In
9 response Martinez said he would go with Petitioner to the bank and
10 get him money. Petitioner relayed this information to whomever he was
11 calling. (4 RT 359-361.) They went back to the bank. Martinez left the
12 car, took \$300 out of the ATM and returned to the blue Chevrolet by
13 walking behind it to look at the license number. (4 RT 388-389.) He got
14 into the car, gave the money and the withdrawal slip to Petitioner
15 who placed both in the Taco Bell bag with the rest of the money.
16 (4 RT 362-363-370.) On the route from the bank back to Winder Street
17 Petitioner pointed out ^{Martinez} house and the house where Janette A.
18 lived. (4 RT 363.)

19 (1)

20 Unbeknownst to the burglar, there is a disk in the camera which enables
21 the images to be downloaded to a computer. This allowed the investigators
22 to obtain photos of the persons in the store between 3:00 and 4:00 a.m.
23 on July 2-2001 (6 RT 2154-2155-2158-2159; 8-RT 2749-2750; Exs 14-15)
24 cts

25 Petitioner returned to Winder and parked in front of Martinez' brown
26 Honda. Petitioner and Moran switched places, Petitioner going to
27 Martinez' Honda and Moran getting into the blue Chevrolet where
28 Martinez remained. (4 RT 365-366.) Petitioner Bautista asked Janette

1 if Moran did something to her. She did not respond. (5RT-942.) Then
2 Petitioner told her to pull down her pants. She said she could not
3 because she was having her period and because her hands were
4 taped above her head. Petitioner ripped the tape with his mouth,
5 pulling out some hair from Janette's head. Petitioner forced Janette
6 to orally copulate him. (5RT 943.) Petitioner got out of the car.
7 (5RT 946.)

8 (K)

9 Meanwhile, defendant Moran kept asking Martinez about valuable
10 thing in the Taco Bell, who made deposits and when. Moran told
11 Martinez they would let him go, and when he made a police report,
12 he was to blame it on black people. (4RT 368; 5RT 987.) Martinez was
13 to wait 45 minutes or maybe 15 minutes before leaving. (Compare
14 4RT 383 with 5RT 990.) The two men took off in the blue Chevrolet.
15 Martinez moved to the driver's side of his brown Honda and waited
16 about 15 minutes until the crying Janette asked him to drive her home.
17 Janette told her mother part of what had happened. Janet and Martinez
18 called Taco Bell Managers and then the police (4RT 385-386; RT 1321.)
19 (L)

20 Officer arrived and took report (4RT-382.) Martinez told them
21 what had taken place, but at first did not tell them about the blue
22 Chevrolet's license number (4RT-388.) Later that day Martinez
23 gave the Police what he recalled of the license plate numbers
24 the first three (4NQ) and the last three 713. (5RT 610.) Janette
25 was taken to a hospital where a nurse practitioner conducted
26 a sexual assault examination and concluded that her findings
27 were consistent with either forcible or consensual sodomy.
28 (5RT- 992; 9RT-3317; 11-RT-4224, 4249.)

1 (M)

2 Janette was a good friend and neighbor. Karla Campos whose
3 boy friend is Guillermo "Meno" Sandoval, the third man involved
4 in the robberies, but not apprehended. (5-RT 984, 1005, 1031; 6-RT
5 283.) Janette also knows Lidia Batres, Meno's sister, and their
6 brother, Carlos. Another of Janette's friend is Karina, whose
7 boyfriend is Carlos. Janette had never seen appellant or Moran
8 with these friends (5-RT 985, 1013, 1031.) She denied ever hearing
9 Carlos or Meno or anyone else talk about robbing the Taco Bell
10 restaurant. She denied telling them about the time-lock safe. The
11 subject of the restaurant came up only because Meno and Carlos
12 wanted to work there (5-RT-1001; 6-RT 1225 1323.) Janette denied
13 knowing that Codefendant Moran was related to her friends (6-RT
14 1234-1235.)

15 (H.)

16 Nonetheless two weeks before the Taco Bell Burglary, Lidia Batres,
17 Meno's sister, called Janette and threatened her, "Take care of your
18 back." But maybe it was not Ms Bates calling. (Compare 5-RT-1018,
19 1022, with 6-RT-1240.) Janette reported the threat to the investigating
20 officer. (5-RT-1023, 1049.) Two weeks after the Taco Bell
21 incident, Meno called Janette's mother and told her to stop
22 making accusations about a robbery. (5-RT-1024.) Another call came
23 from Bates. (5-RT-1024-1025.) Janette may or may not
24 have told the police the identity of the persons making
25 these calls (5-RT- 1025, 1027.)

26
27
28

1 The investigation of the Taco Bell accident:

2
3 At 3:48 A.M. on July 2, 2001 Glendale Police Officer Mendez made a
4 traffic stop of a blue Chevrolet on Windsor Street and Columbus Avenue
5 because it did not have a visible rear license plate (6-RT-1562-1563, 1562.)
6 There were two people in the vehicle; Petitioner Bautista was driving (6-RT
7 1564.) The passenger was wearing a Taco Bell uniform and hat. He told
8 the officer that the driver had just picked him up from work and was
9 driving him home. Petitioner explained that he had gotten gas and for-
10 gotten to flip the license plate back up. "(RT-6)-1569-1570-1572.)
11 Although Petitioner did not have his driver's license with him, he was
12 able to give the officer his license numbers and his license plates.
13 The computer system for running license numbers and license number
14 for plates was not working so the officer ended the stop and told
15 Petitioner to drive safely. Petitioner got out of the car and folded
16 the license plate up (6-RT-1522-1524-1522.)

17
18 The same officer responded to Janette's house following a 5:09 a.m.
19 radio call of a robbery, kidnap, and rape investigation. (6-RT-1575.)
20 The officer recognized Martinez as the passenger in the car he had
21 stopped. (6-RT-1578.) Janette told him she worked at Taco Bell,
22 the restaurant had been robbed, and she had been raped. (6-RT-
23 1579; 7-RT-1837.)

24
25 ⁴ This was an older Chevrolet which has the gas cap behind the license
26 plate. The plate has to be flipped down before fuel can be pumped
27 (7-RT-1851.)

1 The detective took Janette to a hospital for examination. (7-RT 1930,
2 2102.) The detective took the assault evidence and booked it into
3 a locked, secured lab freezer. Later, the evidence was sent to the
4 Los Angeles County Sheriff Department's Scientific Services Bureau.
5 (7-RT 1931) D.N.A. samples were taken of petitioner and defendant
6 Moran. (8-RT-2434-2435.) The DNA expert "excluded Petitioner
7 Bautista" as the semen donor. "But found a match to Moran"
8 (1 in 472 Trillion unrelated males.) (8-RT-2226) Yet Bautista was
9 blamed and convicted on a crime he never Commit.
10

11 Through a partial plate number provided by ~~Pedro Martinez~~, an
12 officer ran through the D.M.V. Computer various versions of the
13 number, cross-checking for a vehicle matching the physical description
14 of the chevrolet. It matched a 1993 Chevrolet Caprice Classic, No.
15 4NQZ713 (7-RT-1855-1857.)
16

17 LAPD Officer Schlegel learned during the July 4th roll-call to be on
18 the look out of a blue Chevrolet Caprice (7-RT-1864-1865.) He and
19 his partner spotted the vehicle with two occupants, Petitioner and a
20 women. (7-RT-1865-1866.) They stopped the occupants without
21 incident, detained and transported them to the Rampart station,
22 and notified the Glendale Police Department. (7-RT-1868-1869.) LAPD
23 Officer Flores is a Spanish-speaking officer assigned to Rampart.
24 Around 9:00 or 10:00 P.M. Flores Mirandized and translated the interrog-
25 ation of Petitioner by Glendale detective Currie and Frank. (7-RT-
26 1873-1876; 8-RT-2531-2532; 9-RT-3017.) Petitioner agreed to speak to
27 the officers without an attorney present, but was not asked if
28 he gave up his right to remain silent. (7-RT-1877; 9-RT-3005.) Pursuant

1 to interrogation Petitioner said that the Chevrolet Caprice belonged
2 to him, that he was at Taco Bell on July 2 in the Caprice, that
3 he followed a gray Honda as it left Taco Bell and stopped
4 in a parking lot, that a male and Janette were fixing a tire
5 (Notice how everyone knows Janette even from a far distant whether it be
6 Day or Night even in bad lighting) Any after the tire was fix that Petitioner
7 moved the Honda with the male and Janette in it, that he drove the
8 male back to Taco Bell and thence to the bank where a withdrawal
9 was made in the Chevrolet. And that he was paid \$40. as the
10 result of "what went on." (9RT-3006-3009.) Petitioner denied
11 being armed with a handgun, and denied that he sexually assault-
12 ed Janette (9RT 3018.)

13
14 Officer McLaughlin participated in the search of a rear house
15 on Third Avenue in Los Angeles, and a Toyota 4-Runner on July
16 5-2001. He recovered a fishing-type cap with the words
17 "Chicken Run" on it in the 4-Runner and turned it over to
18 another officer for booking into evidence. (7-RT-1897-1899; (R.T-13)
19 5438.) Documents found inside the vehicle were in defendant
20 Moran's name. (15-RT-5438.)

21
22 Detective Currie also participated in the search. (8RT-2532) Four
23 Cell Phone were recovered. (9RT-3012.) "NO guns were found"
24 (9RT-3027.) Currie identified defendant Moran as the person arrested
25 following the search. (8RT-2533.) Currie also put a phone trap on
26 Janette's phone.⁵ Two weeks after July 2, Janette paged Currie,
27 he called and learned that her mother had received a threatening
28 or intimidating call. (9RT-3031.) The mother told Currie that the caller

1 A phone Trap is an electronic tracking device that allows the
2 Phone Company to see who called a particular number (9RT-3030)

3
4 identified herself as the sister of the boyfriend of Karla Campos
5 (9RT-3035.) Currie traced the number through the phone trap and
6 confronted Ruth Sandoval and Lidia Batres. The threatening
7 caller was Lidia Batres. Janette had not told Currie that she
8 knew Lidia Batres (9RT-3035-3036-3054.)

9
10 Eventually, Janette admitted to Currie that she knew "Meno"
11 was Karla's boyfriend, and that Janette had been in Meno's
12 automobile two weeks before July 2-2001 and that she had suggested
13 to Meno's brother, Carlos Sandoval, a long-standing employee
14 of the Tee Bang Restaurant, that he apply for a job at Taco Bell.
15 (9RT-3038-3040-3045.) However, Janette never told the officer of
16 her connections to Lidia Batres and defendant Moran (9RT-
17 3048.) Then during jury selection Carlos Sandoval made
18 a threatening call to Janette on behalf of defendant Moran's
19 wife (Sandoval's sister-in-law) (9RT-3056.)

20
21 Currie prepared a photo six-pack for Janette to view (8-RT-2538.)
22 She identified Petitioner as the man who first approached her and
23 Martinez in the parking lot. (8-RT-2232 9-RT-3021; Ex 3.5) She identified
24 defendant Moran in another six-pack as the person who was
25 with Petitioner. (8RT 2834; RT 3027 Ex 35.)

26
27 On December 31-2001, Martinez viewed a live line up. He identified
28 No. 3 (4RT-395.) He was not able to make an identification

1 in a photo lineup. (4-RT-392) Martinez recognized Petitioner
2 in frames reproduced from images captured on the Taco
3 Bell surveillance cameras' hard drive. (4-RT 401, 404, 5-RT-608-
4 609.) He identified Petitioner in Court. Janette identified
5 Petitioner and codefendant Moran in court. (5-RT-935-982.)
6 She identified Petitioner and Moran in the live lineup
7 (5-RT-995-999.)

8
9 Pauline Villegas is a fraud investigator for the bank of
10 America (7-RT-1879.) She testified that a \$300 cash withdrawal
11 was made on July 2 at 4:07 a.m. from Pedro Romero Martinez'
12 account at the A.T.M. machine on San Fernando Road. (7-RT-1883-
13 1885.)

14
15 Defendant Moran's fingerprints and thumb prints were found
16 on Petitioner's blue Chevrolet and on Martinez' brown Honda.
17 Petitioner's prints were found on his Chevrolet (7-RT-2226-2229-2230;
18 8-RT-2413-2426-2428.) Petitioner's fingerprint was also discovered
19 on a group of Taco Bell bags in the restaurant. (7-RT-2229-
20 2230; Ex 9; 8-RT-2430.)

Counts 8, 9, 10.

The case 18-2001 El Pollo Loco Burglary and related charges

The El Pollo Loco Burglary: On June 18-2001 about 12:30 a.m. Laura Black the general manager of the El Pollo Loco on south Central Avenue in Glendale, was in the restaurant office preparing a food cost report for inventory. Ivan Estrada, a manager, was counting money for the nightly deposit. There was \$1100 in the safe, which was open. The restaurant had not been secured because the cleanup person was taking trash out the back door (IIR 4269-4272.) As Black prepared to leave, defendant Moran came through the door behind employee Carlos Francisco, raised a black and silver semi-automatic to her face, ordered Black not to look at him, and pushed her back into the office (IIR 4276-4277, 4283.)

According to Estrada the man with the gun was wearing a blue fishman's hat that said "Chicken Run" on it. He order Estrada to turn around and get to the floor. (IIR 4563, 4566, (Ex. 16) He took the phone cord off the fax machine, tied Estrada's hands behind his back, and push him on the ground. He pushed Black into a corner. (IIR 4280, 4564-4565) Then he pickup Estrada's black backpack, emptied it, took the \$28.00 that Estrada had been counting and put it in the backpack. He also took \$1100 ~~out~~ of the open safe. (IIR 4227-4228, 4564.)

1 The cook Martin Oros, saw the man enter right behind
2 Francisco. He was wearing a blue cap with "Roast Chicken"
3 on it. Oros did not see a gun. (11RT 4311, 4313, 4515.)

4
5 Meanwhile, Nancy Salangsang was cleaning up when she
6 noticed a man walking back and forth outside the front
7 door. (11RT 4576.) This man was heavy set with a big
8 stomach, wearing a cap and smoking (12RT 4830.) As
9 Salangsang went towards the kitchen to put away a
10 broom and mop, a man inside the restaurant grabbed
11 her, pressed a gun into her back and pushed her into
12 the kitchen and then into a back office. (11RT 4578,
13 4580; 12RT 5108.) The same man gestured to Oros to
14 go into the kitchen where Carlos Francisco and Nancy
15 Salangsang had already been tie up. Oros was tied
16 up (11RT 4308-4310; 12RT 4804-4805.)

17
18 Salangsang saw the man with the "Chicken Run" hat come out
19 of the office with Estrada's backpack (11RT 4583-4584;
20 Ex 16.) He came to the door and said "Vamos." The man
21 who tied up Oros and Salangsang followed the man
22 with carrying Estrada's backpack out through the
23 back door. (11RT 4585; 12RT 4824-4832.) A man
24 entered the office and said something in Spanish
25 to the man with the gun. Someone told Black and Estrada
26 to say put; the burglars left. Ms Black went to the
27 kitchen to see if the other employees (Oros, Salangsang
28 Francisco) were safe. She found them tied up with shoelaces.

1. and apron strings (12RT 4282.)

2.
3. The Investigation of the El Belle Loco Burglary;
4. Patrol Officer Van Gorden responded ^{to} the El Belle Loco.
5. (12RT 5130-5131) He spoke to Martin Oros who told the
6. officer what happened and gave descriptions of two individuals.
7. (12RT 5131-5133) The individuals with the gun
8. was a thin white man 5'6 or so black medium-length
9. hair. Clean shaven and wearing a black baseball cap,
10. a white and red checkered shirt white pants and white
11. tennis shoes (12RT 5139) The second man was a male
12. Hispanic, no mustache, wearing a light blue baseball cap
13. and a white T-shirt. (12RT 5139) Oros could not identify
14. the second man because he never saw his face (12RT 5141),
15.

16. Officer Hess also responded to the El Belle Loco, and inter-
17. viewed Nancy Salangsang. Salangsang told the officer
18. that a man grabbed her by her shirt collar. She described
19. that person as a male Hispanic in his 30's 5'5" in height,
20. with a thick mustache and a thin build. Salangsang
21. described the weapon as a chrome semiautomatic
22. handgun with a black handle. (13RT 5422-5423.)
23. Salangsang further stated there was only one man
24. in the restaurant. She described the second man out-
25. side the restaurant as a male Hispanic in his 30's
26. 5'2" tall 160 pounds with a heavy build and
27. a big stomach. (13RT 5424-5425.)

Ground #1

Argument

1 Appeal from the Judgment, NO. B173331.
2 The trial court violated Petitioner Bautista 5th and 14th
3 amendment rights when it admitted his post-arrest state-
4 ment taken without asking if he gave up his right to
5 remain silent.

6
7 Supporting Facts

8 The trial court improperly admitted evidence derived
9 from Bautista's statement to police officers regarding the
10 Taco Bell offenses in violation of the rule adopted by the
11 majority in Miranda v. Arizona (1966) 384 U.S. 436, 444,
12 445, 86 S. Ct. 1602, 16 L.Ed. 2d, 694. Because the Miranda
13 advisement was inadequate - the officer did not ask
14 Bautista if he gave up his right to remain silent - Petitioner's
15 convictions of the charges relating to the Taco Bell affair
16 should be reversed for violation of his Fifth and Fourteenth
17 Amendment rights.

18

19 A Standard and Scope of Review

20 This Court is bound to Petitioner's writ and also this Court
21 is bound by the Trial Court's resolution of disputed
22 facts and inferences, and its evaluation of credibility,
23 if they are supported by substantial evidence. However, the
24 Court also has a duty to independently determine from the
25 undisputed facts and those properly found by the Superior
26 Court whether the challenged confessions were illegally
27 obtained. (People v. Ochoa (1998) 19 Cal. 4th 353-402)
28 (People v. Bradford (1997) 14 Cal. 4th 1005-1032-1033.) The Court

1 engages its independent review in the light of the record in its
2 entirely, including all of the surrounding circumstances,
3 including the characteristics of the accused and the details
4 of his encounter with police. (People v. Neal (2003) 31 Cal.4th
5 63, 80.) The court applies federal standards in its review
6 of a claim of a Miranda violation. (Id. at p. 86; People v.
7 Crittenden (1994) 9 Cal.4th 83, 129).⁶

8
9 B The officer never inquired as to whether Attorney
10 Bautista gave up his Fifth Amendment right to remain
11 Silent.

12
13 In Miranda v. Arizona supra 384 U.S. 436, the Supreme Court
14 held that under the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments a suspect
15 may not be subjected to custodial interrogation unless he
16 knowingly and intelligently waives the right to remain
17 silent, to the presence of an attorney, and to appointed
18 counsel in the event that he is indigent. (Id. at pp. 444-445,
19 473-474; People v. Sims (1993) 5 Cal.4th 405, 410.)⁷ Statements
20 obtained in violation of this rule are deemed involuntary
21 and cannot be used to establish guilt. (Miranda supra, 384
22 U.S. at p. 444.)

23
24 The distinction between involuntary statements and statements
25 taken without a valid Miranda waiver is explained succinctly
26 in (Moran v. Burbine (1986) 475 U.S. 412, 421-106 S.Ct. 1135, 89 L.Ed.
2d 410, 7: (Cert. den. (1995) 516 U.S. 849, 116 S.Ct. 144, 133 L.Ed.2d
27 90.)⁸ (Cert. den. (1994) 512 U.S. 1253, 114 S.Ct. 2782, 129 L.Ed.2d 893)

"

1 First the relinquishment of the right must have been voluntary
2 in the sense that it was the product of a free and deliberate
3 choice rather than intimidation, Coercion, or deception. Second,
4 the waiver must have been made with a full awareness both of
5 the nature of the right being abandoned and the consequences
6 of the decision to abandon it. Only if the totality of the circum-
7 stances surrounding the interrogation reveal both an uncoerced
8 choice and the requisite level of comprehension may a court
9 properly conclude that the Miranda rights have been waived

10

11 Before a Court can conclude that a defendant validly waived
12 his Miranda rights, it must first find the defendant was aware of
13 and understood its rights. Edwards v Arizona (1981) 451 U.S. 472
14 484, 101 S. Ct. 1880, 68 L. Ed. 2d 378. Courts must indulge every reasonable
15 presumption against waiver of fundamental Constitutional
16 rights. (Johnson v Zerbst (1938) 304 U.S. 458, 464, 58 S. Ct. 1019
17 82 L. Ed. 1461.)

18

19 To ascertain whether a suspect understands his rights Police
20 Officers generally read from a Miranda card and then ask the
21 defendant if he gives up each of those rights including,
22 Do you wish to give up the right to remain silent? (see discussion
23 infra at p 24, fn 8.)

24

25 In contrast here the officer asked Petitioner if he understood
26 his rights. He stated he did. The officer asked if Petitioner
27 wanted to speak with an attorney. He said no. The officer
28 asked only one other question - Did Petitioner want to have an

1 attorney present during the questioning. Petitioner said no. (8RT1877)
2 The officer "NEVER" asked if Petitioner wanted to give up his
3 right to remain silent.⁸

4

5 Hence, it is undisputed that the Miranda warnings officer
6 Flores read to Petitioner were incomplete and inadequate.
7 (8RT2774) 2280.) The Court agreed that he was not asked
8 this question but deemed it a "TINY DETAIL," to which Petitioner's
9 Counsel responded that it was "NOT A TINY DETAIL." "It's actually
10 one of the fundamental rights." (8RT 2782.) Although the
11 Court found the advisement were "Sloppy," it figured that
12 under the totality of the circumstances Petitioner understood
13 that he had the right to remain silent, and waived that right
14 voluntarily. The Court denied the motion for mistrial. (8RT 2783-
15 2785.) The Court erred.

16

17 ⁸ The Los Angeles Police Department advises its officers to give the following
18 admonitions and ask the following questions:

19 "Admonition Rights"

20 When a suspect in custody is to be interrogated regarding his
21 possible participation in the commission of a criminal offense,
22 he shall be "warned" exactly as follows:

23 (1) you have the right to remain silent. (2) If you give up the right
24 to remain silent, anything you say will be used against you in a
25 Court of Law. (3) you have the right to speak with an Attorney and
26 to have the attorney present during questioning. (4) If you so
27 desire and cannot afford one an Attorney will be appointed for
28 you without charge before questioning.

1 aware of all of his rights, it was absolutely crucial for the officer
2 to ask, "DO YOU GIVE UP THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT?" Only then
3 could it be said that Petitioner knowingly, intelligently, and
4 voluntarily waived his Constitutional right to remain silent.
5 Petitioner's conviction should be reversed because his
6 involuntary statements were used against him in violation
7 of Miranda (9 RT 3006-3009.)

8
9 Human rights News (Washington D.C. 4-23-04)

10 (<http://www.org/length/1/docs/2004/104122quater8485.htm>)

11
12 Adding the proverbial insult to injury, not only did the
13 prosecutor use Petitioner's statements against him, she convinced
14 the Court to redact all exonerating portions of the statement
15 in order to protect codefendant Moran and defeat a motion
16 for severance. Then the prosecutor used the redacted version
17 of Petitioner's statement to pillory him by arguing he never
18 told the Police about others involved when in truth he did.

19
20 As Petitioner shows next, this combination of events is a
21 Constitutional violation of Petitioner's Fifth, Sixth and
22 Fourteenth Amendments Right which it requires reversal.

23
24
25
26
27
28

1 "After the admonition has been given, the following questions shall
2 be asked.

3 (1) Do you understand each of these rights I have explained to
4 you?. (2) Do you wish to give up the right to remain silent?
5 (3) Do you wish to give up the right to speak to an attorney and
6 have him present during questioning? (People v. Manis (1969)

7 268 Cal App. 2d 653, 668 fn. 4 emphasis added.) The right to remain
8 silent and waived that right voluntarily, the court denied this motion for mistrial
8 RT 2783-2285.) The court erred

9 C. Petitioner's statement should have been excluded
10 because under the circumstances it was not voluntary

11 Being that Petitioner is a native of Guatemala and it is common
12 knowledge that police interrogations there are far less benign
13 than even the most aggressive interrogation in this country.
14 Petitioner is a taxi driver, speaks only Spanish, has no arrest
15 record, and undoubtedly is not familiar with the niceties
16 of Miranda or his constitutional right to remain silent

17 (1 CT 232-2 CT 283) His wife was arrested with him and his
18 encounter at the police station surely involved fear of the police
19 and concern for his wife. (1 RT 1868-1869.) Petitioner was arrested
20 about 10:00 a.m. but the interrogation did not begin until 9:00 or
21 10:00 p.m. (1 RT 1863-1873 1876 8 RT 2531 2532 9 RT 3012) In the
22 intervening 12 hours between arrest and interrogation, a non-
23 English speaking individual who hailed from a country life
24 with civil rights abuses surely grew more and more concerned
25 for his safety and that of his wife.

26
27
28 Under these circumstances, to make certain Petitioner was

1 Ground 2

2 The Court erred in admitting petitioner Bautista's
3 statements in redacted form which eliminated
4 exonerating portions thus depriving him of a fair
5 trial and due process.

6

7 Supporting Fact

8 The prosecutor "substantially and significantly" redacted
9 Bautista's statement to exclude mention of Guillermo "Meno"
10 Jimenez (Sandoval) and of Bautista's belief that Janette
11 A. was a friend or Meno's and a willing participant in
12 the Taco Bell burglary. (Com. page) 2-CT-281-282 with 283
13 284.) The prosecutor's crafted the redaction to (1) defeat
14 appellant/defendant Moran's severance motion and at the
15 same time (2) show that Bautista admitted the Kidnapping
16 and Robbery of Janette A and Pedro Martinez (2-RT E-8 E-10
17 E-17 E-19 E-20 [Motion for severance].)

18

19 However in redacting the statement, the prosecutor excluded
20 exculpatory state-of-mind evidence. Bautista believed that
21 Janette was a part of the Kidnap/robbery scheme (2-CT-283)
22 Kidnapping is a specific intent crime; if one consents to
23 accompany another, there is no ~~no~~ Kidnapping. (People v. Davis
24 (1995) 10 Cal. 4th 463, 516-517.) Similarly, where the Kid-
25 nap victim is actually a principal in a Kidnap for robbery
26 scheme, robbery is not the natural and probable consequence of
27 a Kidnap. (People v. Fletcher (1996) 13 Cal. 4th 451, 470-471.)
28 Therefore, exclusion of evidence of Bautista's belief that

1 Janette was in on the plan to rob Taco Bell deprived Petitioner
2 of his Constitutional right to a defense and requires reversal
3 of offenses charged in connection with the Taco Bell incident
4 Counts 1, 2, 4, 11, and 14.

5

6 A. Severe sedaction of Petitioner's Statement to avoid
7 Separate Trials deprived him of Exonerating State-
8 of-Mind evidence.

9

10 1. Standard of Review

11 "Under Penal Code section 1098, a trial court must order a
12 joint trial as a "rule" and may order separate trials only as
13 an exception" (People v. Alvarez (1996) 14 Cal.4th 155, 190,
14 original-italics.) An appellate court reviews an order
15 denying a motion for severance for an abuse of discretion
16 (*Ibid.*) Whether it's an abuse of discretion to deny sever-
17 ance depends on the facts as they appeared at the time of
18 the hearing on the motion. (People v. Pishater (1992) 1 Cal.4th
19 865, 932.)

20

21 There are two levels of review. The first determines whether the
22 trial court abused its discretion in denying the motion. If not,
23 the next level of review determines whether the failure to sever
24 resulted in such unfairness that the defendant was deny-
25 a fair trial or due process. The first level of review focuses on
26 what was presented to the trial court at the time it made
27 its decision. The second level of review focuses on what actually
28 happened in a joint trial (People v. Greenberger (1997) 58 Cal.App.4th
298-343).

1 2. The trial court abused its discretion because the
2 redaction operated to petitioner Bautista's detriment
3
4 The primary defense was that one of the complainants,
5 Janette A., was an accomplice to the robberies and not
6 a victim. (J.R.T. 1829.) Taco Bell's loss prevention manager
7 sent a fax (Ex. B.B) to the Glendale Police department
8 to the effect that he had received information that the
9 victim Janette A. might have been a participant in the
10 burglary, although he retracted that suspicion at trial.
11 (Compare J.R.T. 2172 with J.R.T. 2175.) Severance was required
12 to prevent prejudice to Bautista through deletion of the
13 exonerating portions of his statement.

14 "
15 When the prosecution proposes to introduce into evidence an extrajudicial
16 statement of one defendant that implicates a codefendant, the trial court
17 must adopt one of the following procedures: (1) It can permit a joint
18 trial if all parts of the extrajudicial statements implicating any codefend-
19 ants can be and are effectively deleted without prejudice to the
20 declarant. By effective deletions, we mean not only direct and indirect
21 identifications of codefendants but any statements that could be
22 employed against nondeclarant codefendants once their identity
23 is otherwise established. (2) It can be grant a severance of trials
24 if the prosecution insists that it must use the extrajudicial
25 statements and it appears that effective deletions cannot be made. (3) If the prosecution has successfully resisted a motion for severance and
26 thereafter offers an extrajudicial statement implicating a codefendant,
27 the trial court must exclude it if effective deletions are not possible."
(People v. Aranda (1965) 62 Cal.3d. 518, 530, 531. fn. deleted emphasis added.)

1 Under Aranda, the trial court's only choices were to exclude the
2 statement in its entirety or grant separate trials. Yet, the trial court
3 denied defendant Moran's motion for severance, and permitted
4 admission of Bautista's statement in its severely redacted form
5 through the testimony of a police officer, Detective Curre (2RT 20-
6 E 21.) This was error because to deny the motion the court had to
7 exclude relevant exculpatory, state-of-mind evidence of Janette's
8 complicity which would have aided Bautista in defending the
9 specific intent crimes.

10

11 Extra-judicial statements which explain the accused's state of mind and
12 conduct are admissible (People v. Hill (1992) 3 Cal 4th 959 982)¹⁰ In Hill
13 the trial court excluded evidence tending to show that the defendant
14 took jewelry from the shooter because he feared the shooter would kill
15 him if he did not. This was error. If the jury believed the defendant's
16 assertion, the jury could reasonably have rejected the People's contention
17 that the defendant took the jewelry from the store and hence he was the
18 man who shot and killed the proprietor. If believed, the defendant's state-
19 ment would have tended to prove why he had possession of the jewelry.
20 (Id. at pp. 997-998.)

21

22 Petitioner's case is similar. If his statement had been admitted in
23 its entirety, the jury reasonably could have inferred that "Meno" and
24 Janette set up the entire Taco Bell venture. From that intermediate fact
25 the jury could well have concluded that Petitioner was guilty of going
26 along with the plan, but that the requisite specific intent to kidnap
27 and rob was not present. A fortiori, there was no kidnap and
28 robbery was not the natural and probable consequence of a non-

1 Kidnapping (People v. Fletcher supra 13 Cal 4th at pp 470-471)

2

3 "Overruled on another point in (Price v. Superior Court (People) (2007)

4 25 Cal 4th 1046 1062 fn 13)

5

6 Few rights are more fundamental than that of an accused to

7 present a defense. Both the prosecution and the accused must comply

8 with established rules of procedure and evidence to assure fairness

9 and reliability in the determination of guilt and innocence (Chambers

10 v. Mississippi (1923) 410 U.S. 284, 302, 93 S. Ct. 1038, 35 U.Ed. 2d 297.)

11 In Chambers, the Court reversed the defendant's conviction, finding

12 that exclusion of critical exculpatory evidence was a denial of the

13 right to a fair trial. In (United States v. Robinson (2d Cir 1926) 544 F.

14 2d 110,) the Court reversed a conviction holding the exclusion of excul-

15 patory evidence severely prejudiced the defense. The exculpatory evidence

16 would have been sufficient to create a reasonable doubt as to guilt. (Id.

17 at p. 119;) See also (United States v. Armstrong (9 Cir 1980) 621 F.2d 951,

18 953.) [Conviction reversed on count in which exculpatory evidence

19 had been excluded.]

20

21 An "Aranda/Bruton" issue is not resolved by redacting an extra-jud-

22 icial statement to delete references to the non-declarant Cockleford-

23 ant if doing so results in a distortion to the prejudice to the

24 declarant (People v. Douglas (1991) 234 Cal. App. 3d 223 281)

25 In

26

27 " ("People v. Aranda" supra 63 Cal.2d 518.) (Bruton v. United States (1968)

28 391 U.S. 123, 88 S. Ct 1620, 20 L.Ed. 2d 426.)

1 Douglas, the declarant defendant testified and denied making
2 a telephone call and possessing a knife. The effect of deleting
3 references to the co-defendant from his extrajudicial statement
4 was to distort it by creating an implication of admission that defendant
5 had placed the call and possessed the knife. The result was prejudicial
6 to the declarant, requiring reversal (Id. at p. 282). In (People v. Tealer
7 (1975) 48 Cal. App. 3d 598,) the trial court allowed the prosecutor to use
8 a sanitized version of the defendant's post-arrest statement by subst-
9 ituting "I" for "we." The reviewing court held the change was error
10 because it knew "the entire onus of the planned robbery by converting
11 the sometimes ambiguous and partially exculpatory "we" into an
12 unmistakable "I." (Id. at pp. 603-604.)

14 In (People v. Matola (1968) 259 Cal. App. 3d 686) the court held that
15 a trial court cannot deny a motion to sever by editing a declarant's
16 statement if the editing deprives the declarant of potentially exculpatory
17 evidence.

19 "In ruling upon a severance motion, the trial court must be alert at the
20 outset to factors which are harbingers of editorial failure. IF the
21 parts of the confession affecting a co-defendant favor or may favor the
22 confessing defendant, the deletion of those statements is not going to
23 stick. The declarant's counsel will want to bring them out, either
24 upon cross-examination of the person who testifies to the confession,
25 or upon direct examination of the declarant if he takes the stand.
26 were he prevented from bringing out evidence favorable to his declar-
27 ant client, to protect the nondeclarant, the declarant would
28 himself be prejudiced by the joint trial (People v. Matola 514a,

1 259 Cal. App. 2d 686 692-693.)¹²

2

3 The exculpatory state-of-mind evidence was a crucial defense because

4 it tended to negate the specific intent required of the crime charged

5 in connection with the Taco Bell incidents. (Cf., *In re Saunders* (1970)

6 2 Cal. 3d 1033, 1049.)

7

8 B. Counsel Rendered Ineffective Assistance by failing to

9 object to a joint trial

10

11 The general rule is that the failure to make a formal motion for

12 severance constitutes a waiver. (*People v. Pinholster*, *supra*, 2 Cal. 4th

13 at p. 931.) This, however, is only the general rule. "A defendant will

14 be excused from the necessity of either a timely objection and/or a

15 request for admonition if either would be futile." (*People v. Hill* (1998)

16 12 Cal. 4th 800, 820.) quoting (*People v. Arias* (1996) 13 Cal. 4th 92,

17 159.) The court had already denied co-defendant Moran's motion

18 for severance. Another objection to a joint trial by Petitioner

19 Counsel would have been futile.

20

21 nonetheless, if this court determines that Petitioner Bautista has

22 not preserved the issue for Petitioner's review because his attorney

23 did not independently move to sever or join in Moran's severance

24 motion or object to the form of the redaction, then Counsel rend-

25 cred ineffective assistance for not doing so.

26

27 ¹²⁾ Superseded by statute on another point as stated in (*People v.*

28 *Boyd* (1990) 222 Cal. App. 3d 541.)

1 2 Standard of review

2 A defendant has the Constitutional right under the sixth Amendment
3 to the effective assistance of counsel at trial. A defendant claiming
4 ineffective representation must prove by a preponderance of the
5 evidence that counsel's assistance was deficient, and his representa-
6 tion fell below an objective standard of reasonableness. (In re Ross
7 (1995) 10 Cal. 4th 184, 201.) A court assesses the reasonableness of
8 counsel's omissions as they stood when he failed to act (Ibid.) whether
9 an attorney's performance was deficient and whether the deficiency
10 prejudiced the defense is a mixed question of law and fact. Mixed
11 questions of law and fact are reviewed de novo. (Ibid.)

13 2. On these facts, no reasonable attorney would have forgone
14 a motion to sever.

16 Counsel was well aware that Bautista's statement involved a person
17 name "Meno" as a participant, and information Bautista received
18 from Meno indicating that Janette participated to some extent
19 in this crime (2 RT D13-D-14.) The incriminating information
20 remained; the exonerating material was excised. Yet even after
21 the prosecutor had redacted Bautista's statement to the people's
22 and Moran's benefit and Petitioner detriment, Counsel did not
23 move to sever the causes. In (In re Hall (1981) 30 Cal. 3d 408)
24 the court held that a defendant was denied effective assistance
25 of counsel due to the attorney's failure to investigate information
26 which indicated another person was guilty of the offense. (Id.
27 at pp. 422-429) While the instant matter does not involve a
28 failure to investigate, it does involve counsel's failure to move

1 for severance or object to a redaction which stripped Petitioner
2 of exculpatory statements which were relevant and crucial
3 to his defense that Janette was in on the Taco Bell program
4 from its ~~on~~ onset. Since Janette was a willing principal
5 Petitioner could not be convicted of any of the specific intent
6 crimes connected to the Taco Bell burglary.

7

8 3 Counsel's error was prejudicial

9 In assessing prejudice from Counsel's failure to move for severance
10 or support defendant Moran's motion, the question is whether
11 there is a reasonable probability that, absent the error a reasonably
12 jury could have sustained a reasonable doubt a defendant's guilt.
13 (Strickland v Washington (1984) 466 U.S. 668-682 688 104 S.Ct.
14 2052 80 L.Ed.2d 624.) In making that determination, the reviewing
15 court must consider the totality of the evidence before
16 the jury. Taking the unaffected finding as a given, and making
17 due account of the effect of the errors on the remaining
18 findings, the reviewing court must ask if the defendant has
19 met the burden of showing it is reasonably like the decision
20 would have been different absent those errors. (Id. at p. 695.) The
21 prejudice here was twofold. First by excluding evidence of
22 Bautista's belief that Janette was a party to the plot the court
23 stripped Petitioner of a viable defense to the specific intent crimes.
24 Second, of which more later, the prosecutor used the redaction
25 against Bautista.

1 4. Admission of the redacted statement was error of
2 Constitutional dimension

3
4 Over objection by Moran's attorney, the court ruled the People
5 could use the redacted statement before the jury, although "they
6 do so at their peril" (2 CT 294-2 RT E-21 E23.) The prosecutor
7 recognized that it was important to the People's case and to
8 Moran to allow only the redacted statement before the jury -
9 that there be no slip ups with admitting material which had
10 been redacted. (2 RT D16-17.)

11
12 As Professor Witkin explained, cases decided before section 28
13 subdivision (d) was added to Article I of the California
14 Constitution, Courts applied the Watson standard to situations
15 involving a claim of prejudice arising from redacted statements.
16 In the wake of section 28, however, the correct standard is the
17 Chapman test for constitutional error. (Witkin & Epstein Cal.
18 Crim. Law 3d ed. 2000) (Criminal Trial, §§ 390-391, pp. 555-556).
19 (People v. Watson (1956) 46 Cal.2d 818-835;) (Chapman v. California
20 (1962) 386 U.S. 18, 87 S. Ct. 824, 12 L. Ed. 2d 705;) see also (People
21 v. Schmous (2003) 109 Cal App. 4th 846 860.) [Chapman test applied
22 to erroneous admission of declarant's statements error harmless
23 given the overwhelming evidence against the nondeclarant];
24 (People v. Douglas Supra 234 Cal App. 3d at p. 288) [reversible
25 error to delete exculpatory portion of declarant's statement].

26
27 In the instant case, the court did not admit the statement, but
28 Permitted Detective Currie to narrate its contents in response to

37
38

1 questions. (9RT 3006.) Currie testified the Petitioner said he owned
2 the Chevrolet Caprice, that he parked south of the Taco Bell and
3 later followed the gray Honda to a parking lot where a male
4 and Janette were fixing a tire. He moved the Honda to a side
5 street with the male and Janette in it, drove the Chevrolet to
6 Taco Bell and then drove Pedro Martinez to the ATM machine.
7 He was paid \$40.00 as a result of what went on (9RT 3007-3009.)
8 As ordered, Currie said not one word about Meno's solicitation
9 of him as a driver to implement Meno's plan, or that Janette
10 had arranged to get them some money. (RCT 283.) Counsel
11 deemed himself bound by the Court's Amanda/Bruton order
12 (9RT 3019.) Consequently, he was unable to delve into the exoner-
13 ating portions of Petitioner Bautista's statement; Meno told him
14 "that he was a friend of a female employee, 'Janette,' at Taco
15 Bell who was going to give him some money. Bautista warned
16 "Meno" that he would tell the Police everything if the money was
17 obtained illegally." (RCT 283.) That is exactly what Bautista did
18 but the jury never heard the truth.

19
20 Petitioner's case is virtually identical to what happened in
21 People v. Douglas *supra*, 234 Cal App 3d 223.)

22
23 "The deletion of references to [the nondeclarant co-defendant] in
24 in Petitioner's statement clearly, and inaccurately, implied that
25 Petitioner admitted his involvement in conduct he had explicitly
26 disclaimed. Petitioner was then improperly prevented from
27 presenting evidence that his actual statement was exculpatory
28 on major points. The prejudice to him is obvious and serious.

1 If the Court had granted the severance motion, deletions of Petitioner
2 statement would not have been required to protect [the nondeclaratory
3 co-defendant] under Aranda / Bruton. Because the
4 evidence of appellant's involvement in the actual killing
5 of Amey was far from overwhelming, we cannot dismiss this
6 error as harmless. Reversal of the murder conviction is required.
7 (Id at p 282; citation omitted.)

8

9 In the instant case, the primary evidence against Petitioner was
10 the testimony of Janette and her fellow employee, Pedro Martinez.

11 If the jury had known of Petitioner's reasonable belief that at
12 least Janette (if not Martinez) was a principal in the Taco Bell
13 robbery, the jury would not have credited her testimony.
14 Moreover, if the jurors had been privy to these facts, they
15 could not have found beyond a reasonable doubt that Petitioner
16 harbored the specific intent required for the Taco Bell
17 offenses, particularly Kidnapping, because Janette was
18 in on the scheme from the beginning. In sum, there can
19 be no ample evidence of guilt of any specific intent
20 crime without proof beyond a reasonable doubt that
21 the accused harbored the requisite specific intent.

22

23 There is more. Reversal is required where the prejudi-
24 cial effect of this kind of error is compounded by
25 a prosecution argument, urging the jury to consider the
26 excluded evidence in determining guilt and lying about the
27 evidence. (People v. Varona (1983) 143 Cal. App. 3d 566, 570.)

1 ~~Ground #3~~ Ground #3

2 The Prosecutor improperly commented on non-Evidence
3 and on Petitioner's purported failure to identify others
4 involved in the Taco Bell affair more errors of
5 Constitutional import

6

7 Support fact

8 At the very onset of trial the prosecutor, inadvertently or
9 intentionally, let potential jurors know that this was a
10 serious case which carried a life sentence. This was wrong.
11 Jurors are not supposed to consider punishment or penalty.
12 (CALJIC NO. 12.42 [In your deliberations do not discuss or
13 consider the subject of penalty or punishment.] "1) The
14 prosecutor wound up the people's case with additional
15 acts of misconduct.

16

17 It is misconduct to represent what a non-testifying witness
18 would have said. (People v. Hall (2000) 82 Cal. App. 4th 813 817.)
19 However, the trial court automatically overruled every objection
20 made during argument because the court believed in giving
21 counsel "Unlimited latitude." (14 RT 6686 6694; 15 RT 7210-7211,
22 7218; 16 RT 7542.) For example, the prosecutor argued that
23 two of the three witness who did not testify would have lied
24 if they had come to trial, but "Poo. They all disappeared no-
25 body came." (15 RT 7210; 15-26). Moran's counsel objected on the
26 grounds of misconduct and speculation. (15 RT 7210.) The court
27 simply overruled the objection admonished the jury and advised
28 the jury that the defendant has no duty to prove anything. (15 RT

1 7211-7212.) Then, the prosecutor flat out lied to the jury at the end
2 of the trial when she completed her argument to the jury with
3 the statement that Petitioner never told the police that others were
4 involved in the Taco Bell Crimes;

5
6 "Mr. Bautista chose to make a statement. He was confronted with the Crimes.
7 *

8 "And he told us that he drove Janette and Pedro off the parking lot.
9 But not once did he say that Janette or Pedro were involved" (15RT-
10 2231; 4-8 emphasis's added.)

11
12 This was patently untrue - and the prosecutor knew it (see 2 CT-283).

14 A. Standard of Review

15 A prosecutor's improper, misleading or false remarks can so
16 infect a trial with unfairness as to make the accused's conviction
17 a denial of due process. Misconduct which does not render
18 a trial fundamentally unfair is prosecutorial misconduct
19 under state law when it involves the use of deceptive or
20 reprehensible methods or persuade either the Court or jury
21 (People v. Farnam (2002) 28 Cal 4th 107, 167.) Under either standard,
22 Petitioner's conviction must be reversed.

24 B. Arguing false facts to the jury Constituted the judicial
25 Prosecutorial Misconduct.

27 Petitioner Bautista explained to the trial judge that the prosecutor
28 intentionally misled the jury when she knew that Petitioner

1 had reason to believe Janette was involved and had report
2 the same to the Police. Moran argued it was misconduct
3 for the prosecution to bring before the jury facts which
4 were not true (16RT 7533-7534.) They sought an instruction
5 admonishing the jury to disregard the statement.

6
7 "Any argument of Counsel that you should infer from Mr. Bautista's
8 statements that he did not inform the police that either Janette
9 or Peter was involved in the Taco Bell incident is stricken and
10 you are to "disregard the statement." (16RT 7509.)

11
12 It is highly unlikely an admonition would have cured the prejudice
13 generated from the prosecutor's false statement because the prosecutor's
14 office carries with it a mantle of credibility which defense attorneys
15 do not. (see *People v Acevedo* (2001) 93 Cal. App. 4th 757, 772;)
16 (*People v. Talle* (1952) 111 Cal App. 2d 650, 672.) Nonetheless, Petitioner
17 had to try. Without a proper admonition, the jury would
18 speculate that if it was an inside job, as a part of "Coming
19 Clean" Petitioner would have told the Police the young
20 woman was in on it too. (16RT 7528, 7530-7531.) The court refused
21 to give the requested admonition because (1) the defense raised
22 a problem which did not exist, (2) the prosecutor did not
23 really commit misconduct by informing the jury that Bautista
24 never told the Police about his belief in Janette's participation
25 when he did, (3) There was no evidence before the jury that
26 Janette had anything to do with the robbery and (4) The prosecutor's
27 argument was not evidence (16RT 7545-7546.)

1 But, there was a problem. Courts, litigants, and parties properly
2 anticipate that a prosecutor's obligation to refrain from improper
3 methods to obtain a conviction will be honorably observed.
4 (Banks v Dretke (2001) 113 124 S. Ct 1256 1275 29 L. Ed
5 2d 1314.) The reason the jury did not hear about Janette's probable
6 participation is that the court struck the exculpatory portions
7 of Bautista's statement to protect Moran. A prosecutor may
8 comment on the evidence in denigrating terms (People v
9 Lawley (2002) 27 Cal 4th 102, 156.) A prosecutor may com-
10 ment on the failure to produce promised or anticipated
11 evidence so long as he or she does not capitalize on the
12 fact the defendant did not testify (People v Brown (2003) 31
13 Cal. 4th 518, 554.) A prosecutor may comment on the absence of
14 exculpatory evidence, but only if those comments are not of such a
15 character that the jury would naturally and necessarily interpret
16 them to a comment on the failure to testify. (People v. Guzman
17 (2000) 80 Cal. App. 4th 1282, 1290.) And, it is misconduct and rever-
18 sible error for a prosecutor to make a deliberate reference to
19 inadmissible matter from outside the record. (People v Hall *supra*
20 82 Cal App. 4th *at p. 817*;) (People v. Arragon (1957) 154 Cal
21 App. 2d 646, 654.) It is misconduct for a prosecutor to deceive
22 the jury with false statements (People v. Varona, *supra*, 143
23 Cal. App. 3d *at p. 520*.) In Varona the accused defended a charge
24 of oral copulation on the basis the complaining witness was
25 a prostitute who ~~had~~ voluntarily consented. The prosecutor managed
26 to exclude evidence that the witness was a prostitute. The prosecutor
27 then argued that the defendant had not presented any evidence to
28 corroborate his claim of consent. In reversing the conviction the

1 Court condemned the prosecutor's misconduct.

2 "

3 Here the prosecutor not only argued the "lack" of evidence where
4 the defense was ready and will to produce it but he compounded
5 that tactic by actually arguing that the woman was not a prostitute
6 although he had seen the official records and knew that he
7 was arguing a falsehood. The whole argument went beyond
8 the bounds of any acceptable conduct" (Id. at p. 520)

9

10 The mild instruction that the prosecutor's argument was not
11 evidence did nothing to obliterate the false notion firmly planted
12 in the jurors' collective mind that since Bautista spoke to the
13 police he naturally would have told the officers about Janette
14 if he believed she was involved. Since he did not, according to
15 the prosecutor's false statement, Petitioner bore more blame than
16 he ought to have. (People v. Schiers (1958) 60 Cal. App. 2d 364, 379)
17 dis. of Carter, J. [to hold that serious error "is blotted out of a
18 jurors mind by a mere incautation is as fictional as John Doe"]

19

20 "Prosecutor's dishonest conduct should attract no judicial
21 approbation" (Banks v. Dretke supra 124 S. Ct. at p. 1225.)

22

23 C. The issue of Prosecutorial Misconduct has been
24 Preserved for Petitioner's Review

25

26 The general rule is that a claim of prosecutorial misconduct will
27 not be considered on appeal unless the objection has been made
28 and a request for an admonition sought except where an admonition

1 would not have cured the error. (People v. Cunningham (2007)
2 25 Cal. 4th 926, 1000-1001.)¹³

3
4 when it became clear to defendant Moran's counsel just
5 before noon recess that in her closing argument the prosecutor
6 intended to talk about Bautista's statement, he objected on
7 the grounds of prosecutorial misconduct and sought a
8 mistrial: "Counsel is undoubtedly going to argue things not
9 in the redacted statement." (15 RT 7226.) Petitioner Bautista
10 joined in the objection to the extent the prosecutor stated
11 it was Moran who chose to speak to the police instead of
12 Bautista. The court overruled the objections and denied the
13 motion because the anticipated argument had not yet been
14 made. (15 RT 7228.) The court announced the noon recess.
15 Immediately after the lunch break, and very near the end
16 of her argument the prosecutor did exactly what the defense
17 had anticipated. She told the jury that Bautista did not
18 tell the police that Janette and/or Pedro Martinez were involved
19 in the Taco Bell incident - which was directly contrary to
20 Bautista's statement.

21
22 ¹³ Cert. den., 534 U.S. 1441, 122 S. Ct. 1092, 151 L. Ed. 2d 991 (2002).

23
24 Implicitly conceding misconduct the prosecutor argue that
25 petitioner waived the issue by not making an on-the-spot
26 objection. Petitioner responded that his objection was
27 as timely as it could be. The prosecutor made the false
28 statement at the virtual end of her argument within

1 minutes after the prosecutor ended her argument the jury
2 was excused (see 16 RT 7536.) The court had overruled
3 every objection made during argument to give the People
4 "Latitude" in other words show pity for prosecutor (14 RT
5 6686, 6694; 15 RT 2210-2211, 2218; 16 RT 2542.) Still the very
6 next morning, in response to the prosecutor's erroneous
7 and misleading argument, defendants jointly proposed
8 the instruction admonishing the jurors that they were
9 to disregard the prosecutor's argument on this point
10 (16 RT 2503, 2509.) Counsel vigorously argued his
11 position:

12 "
13 [W]e're not talking about the evidence. We're talking about the
14 statement Bautista made to the police. We're talking about the
15 statement she presented to the court that was redacted.
16 We're talking about her closing argument."

17 "
18 So my position is this; If the court wishes to find waiver on
19 my behalf and allow her to, in bad faith argue that Mr. Bautista
20 never said anything... that would infer [sic, imply] that
21 Pedro or Janette were involved, I'll stick to Janette. She's
22 the one mentioned, knowing there is a strong inference here
23 when he says Meno replied he was a friend of the female
24 employee, Janette a Taco Bell [g] who was going to give
25 him the money, Meno's no surprise to her. She knows who
26 he is. Everybody knows who he is....

27 "
28 Now, the court knows [the prosecutor's argument] is a

1 misstatement of fact. . . ." (16 RT 7541-7542.)

2

3 Both defendants moved for a mistrial based on the denial of
4 due process under the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments caused
5 by prosecutorial misconduct. (16 RT 7547-7548, 7550.)

6

7 Petitioner also raised prosecutorial misconduct in his new
8 trial motion (4 CT 911.) Petitioner argued "that the reason
9 Bautista's entire statement, including his statement to the Police
10 that he thought that the two alleged victims were in on the
11 crime, was not admitted was to avoid a severance of the
12 defendants. Under the guise of protecting Moran from prejudice,
13 Bautista's statements incriminating Moran were excluded
14 along with his statements supporting his defense that Janette
15 was part of the kidnap/robbery plan. The prosecutor then
16 turned that purported protection for Moran into a sword
17 and "stuck it to" Bautista by arguing that the absence of
18 any words that others were involved in the conspiracy
19 proved his guilt. (See 4 CT-911; 18 RT 11136-11138.)

20

21 In ruling on the new trial motion, a different court found
22 that there was no "Prejudicial" misconduct. (19 RT 11477.)
23 Implicit in that finding is that the prosecutor did commit
24 misconduct, but lack of an immediate objection was not
25 sufficient to preserve the error, even though it may have
26 been futile to object and despite the fact Petitioner
27 sought a curative instruction. (19 RT 11477-11478.)

1 "The reporter has identified the speaker as "Right 1." (18 RT-
2 11136.) Inasmuch as the error affected Petitioner Bautista
3 most directly, and he was identified as "Defendant No. 1,"
4 we assume the speaker was his attorney, but even if it was
5 Moran's counsel, an objection made by one defendant
6 should be considered an objection by both. "This is
7 reasonable, since one defendant's objection was over-
8 ruled it was futile for any other defendant to raise the
9 same objection" (People v. Pitts (1990) 223 Cal. App. 3d
10 606, 693.)

11
12 Petitioner insists there was no waiver because the objection was
13 made as soon as was practical, his attorney proposed a comp-
14 ective instruction and moved for a mistrial. In the alternative,
15 if this Court decides the objection was not timely and hence
16 counsel's subsequent attempts to rectify the error were futile,
17 then counsel rendered ineffective assistance because no
18 reasonably competent attorney would have allowed a false
19 statement go by without an objection. Either way, the misconduct
20 rendered the trial fundamentally unfair because
21 the prosecutor deliberately planted a false fact in the minds
22 of the jurors.

23
24 There is more. In addition to arguing false and incriminating
25 facts from outside the record, the prosecutor's misconduct
26 constituted Griffin error.

1 D. The Prosecutor's comment on Petitioner's alleged
2 failure to give the police additional information
3 was Griffin error of Constitutional proportion
4

5 By accusing of not telling the police that others were involved
6 and that he believed Janette was a participant, the
7 Prosecutor improperly commented on the fact Petitioner chose
8 to exercise his Sixth Amendment right to counsel and his
9 Fifth Amendment right not to testify. This is Griffin error
10 and prosecutorial misconduct that violated Petitioner's right
11 against self-incrimination under the Federal and California
12 Constitutions, and rendered the trial fundamentally unfair
13 in violation of Petitioner's right to due process under the
14 Fourteenth Amendment. (Griffin v. California (1965) 380
15 U.S. 609, 85 S. Ct. 22, 14 L. Ed. 2d, 106.)

16
17 "It is a bedrock principle in our jurisprudence that one can
18 not be compelled to testify against oneself." (People v. Hardy
19 (1992) 2 Cal. 4th 86, 154, 14 S. Const. Amend. VI; Cal. Const.,
20 art. I § 15.) "In order that an accused not be penalized
21 for his invocation of this fundamental right, the prosecutor
22 may either comment on a defendant's failure to testify nor
23 urge the jury to infer guilt from such silence" (People
24 v. Hardy, Supra 2 Cal 4th at p. 154.) (Griffin v. California
25 Supra 380 U.S. 609.)

26
27 2. Standard of Review

28 In (People v. Clair (1992) 2 Cal. 4th 629) the Supreme Court

1 Clarified in the context of both prosecutorial misconduct
2 and Griffin error that the appropriate test of error is
3 the "reasonable juror." The focus of the inquiry is "
4 whether there is a reasonable likelihood that the jury
5 misconstrued or misapplied the words . . ." (Id. at pp. 662-663.)
6 Coming as they did at the end of her argument, there
7 is every likelihood the jury heeded the prosecutor's
8 false words.

9

10 2. The Prosecutor's argument fell within Griffin's
11 Prohibition.

12

13 Although Griffin involved a direct reference to the defendant's
14 failure to testify, the decision has been interpreted as
15 prohibiting the prosecution from so much as suggesting that
16 the jury may view the defendant's silence as evidence of
17 guilt. (United States v. Robinson (1988) 485 U.S. 25, 32, 108
18 S. Ct. 864, 99 L.Ed.2d 23; (People v. Guzman (2000) 80 Cal.
19 App. 4th 1282, 1282.) The Supreme Court has declared, "Under
20 the rule in Griffin, error is committed whenever the prosecutor
21 comment, either directly or indirectly, upon defendant's
22 failure to testify in his defense." (People v. Medina (1995)
23 11 Cal.4th, 694, 255, emphasis added.)

24

25 In Griffin, the Court held that even limited comment
26 by the prosecution on criminal defendant's failure to
27 testify is constitutionally impermissible. The Griffin
28 rule prohibits commenting on a defendant's failure to

50
2

1 testify indirectly or by innuendo as well as directly. California
2 Courts have consistently followed Griffin. For example, in
3 (People v Mendoza (1974) 32 Cal.App.3d 1717, 1726,) the Court
4 condemned "thinly veiled" comments about the case being
5 hard to defend as tantamount to telling the jurors that they
6 should consider the defendant's failure to testify. Petitioner's
7 Case warrants the same condemnation.

8

9 In (People v. Tealer, *supra* 48 Cal.App.3d 598,) a redaction to
10 protect a codefendant effectively cast the entire onus
11 of guilt on the declarant. The defendant testified and
12 denied making the statement. The prosecutor commented
13 to the jury that the defendant did not deny the facts of
14 the case when he had the opportunity to do so (*Id.* at pp.
15 601-602, ~~¶~~ fn. 6.) Then the court instructed the jury it could
16 take into consideration the defendant's failure to explain
17 the evidence against him. (*Id.* at p. 603 fn. 8.) "This was clear
18 Griffin error." The reviewing court held that the redaction caused
19 "prejudice to the declarant" in violation of
20 Aranda. That in conjunction with Griffin error mandated
21 reversal despite substantial evidence of the defendant's
22 guilt (*Id.* at p. 602.)¹⁵

23

24 In similar vein, in (People v Guzman *supra*, 80 Cal.App.4th 1282,
25 a hit-and-run case, the accused ^{argued} self defense. The prosecutor
26 emphasized the while Guzman fled the scene, the victim
27 made himself available to the police, put himself under
28 oath, and testified. The plain import of this line of argument

51

1 was that Guzman did not speak to the police and did not take
2 the stand (Id. at pp. 1285-1286.) As in the instant case, the
3 prosecutor's argument rested on a falsity:

5 The prosecutor's remarks also implied that Guzman was unwilling
6 to speak with the police, but this is not true. As defense counsel
7 explained to the court, Guzman did tell the police his side
8 of the story. The prosecutor had every right not to introduce
9 this statement at trial. However, for him to then turn around
10 and suggest Guzman was hiding something by not cooper-
11 ating strikes us as being particularly odious" (Id. at p. 1289.
12 fn. 3.)

14 The reviewing court addressed Griffin error even though
15 "defendant has failed to appreciate the full significance of
16 his strongest contention on appeal- and the only one with
17 any substantial merit- he has at least recognized the tip of
18 a Griffin iceberg" (People v Tealer *supra*, 48 Cal App. 3d at
19 p. 600.)

21 The effect of the prosecutor's "odious" conduct was that he "rather
22 clumsily alerted the jury that... Guzman was not willing to
23 explain his side of the story in court" (Id. at p. 1288.) The
24 prosecutor clearly went beyond general commentary by
25 indirectly but implicitly criticizing Guzman for not testifying.
26 (Id. at pp. 1289-1290.) See also (People v Medina *supra*, 41 Cal App.
27 3d at p. 457) [on similar facts the court noted, "Little discussion of
28 authority is necessary to demonstrate that this was Griffin error."].

1 In Petitioner's case, the prosecutor's equally odious conduct
2 conduct constituted Griffin error because she argued that
3 Petitioner Bautista did not tell the police that he believed
4 Janetta was participant and that she and Meno had an
5 arrangement to rob Taco Bell. The only persons who could
6 have countered her argument were Detective Currie who
7 the court ordered not to go beyond the redacted state-
8 ment, Petitioner's Counsel who was bound by the court's
9 order, and Petitioner who did not testify. The prosecutor
10 not only argued a falsehood, she committed Griffin
11 error.

12

13 E. Prejudicial Prosecutorial Misconduct Generated
Serious Constitutional Violations

14

15

16 The prejudice generated by the unfair redaction was
17 compounded by the prosecutor's argument and Griffin
18 error and operated to deprive Petitioner of his Fifth, Sixth,
19 and Fourteenth Amendment rights.

20

21 In garden variety claims of prosecutorial misconduct it is
22 said that a conviction will not be reversed unless the
23 conduct has rendered the trial fundamentally unfair. This
24 occurs when the prosecutor resorts to the use of deceptive
25 or reprehensible methods to persuade either the court or
26 jury of a certain issue of fact. (People v. Hackett (1982), 30
27 Cal. 3d. 841, 866.) Even then prosecutorial misconduct will
28 not result in a reversal unless the defendant would have

1 obtained a more favorable result in the absence of the miscon-
2 duct (People v. Milder (1988) 45 Cal.3d, 227, 245.)

3

4 However, because Griffin error is error of Constitutional dimen-
5 sion, the judgement must be reversed unless the Court can
6 say the error was harmless beyond a reasonable doubt.

7 (Chapman v. California, supra, 386 U.S. at p. 221.) Our Supreme
8 Court has interpreted this to mean that the judgement
9 of conviction must be reversed if there is even a reason-
10 able likelihood that the Jury may have construed the
11 prosecutors remarks or applied his or her words in a
12 manner which violates the Constitution. (People v. Clair
13 supra, 2 Cal.4th at p. 663.) The People carry the burden
14 of proving that the remarks were harmless beyond a
15 reasonable doubt. (People v. Guzman, supra, 80 Cal.App.
16 4th at p. 1290.)

17

18 The original error belonged to the Court. Under Aranda,
19 the Court must not permit a redaction which operates
20 to the detriment of the declarant. Yet, the Court permitted
21 the prosecutor do this very thing in order to protect maria
22 and avoid separate trials. Then, the prosecutor seized upon
23 that error to craft an ending to her closing argument which
24 left the Jury with the false impression that Petitioner
25 never told the police that he believed Janette was in on the
26 plan to rob Taco Bell. When a prosecutor takes advantage
27 of a trial error to bolster an argument in favor of conviction,
28 the result is prejudice to the defendant and denial of

1 a fair trial. (People v. Daggett (1990) 225 Cal. App. 3d 251, 258.)
2 when a prosecutor uses a redacted portion of an extra-jud-
3 icial statement as evidence of guilt during final argument,
4 reversal is mandated. (Cf. People v. Fletcher, *supra* 13 Cal. 4th
5 at p. 471) ["The pre-judicial effect of the error [inadequate
6 redaction] was compounded by the prosecutor's argument
7 to the jury...."]

8
9 In case after case, despite the strength of other evidence,
10 and even without Griffin error, reviewing Courts have
11 reversed convictions under same or similar facts as those
12 here. ¹⁶ (People v. Varna *supra* 143 Cal. App. 3d at pp. 566.)
13 and (People v. Douglas *supra* 234 Cal. App. 3d.

14
15 ¹⁶ In (People v. Matola *supra* 259 Cal. App. 2d at pp. 692-693.)
16 the Court reversed a conviction because the Court erred
17 in denying a severance motion when a co-defendant's
18 statement could not be redacted.

19
20 In People v. Guzman *supra* 80 Cal. App. 4th at p. 1290, the
21 Court reversed a conviction because it could not say that
22 the prosecutor's argument which indirectly focused on
23 the defendant's silence was harmless beyond a reasonable
24 doubt.

25
26 In People v. Tearer, *Supra*, 48 Cal. App. 3d at p. 602, the Court
27 reversed despite substantial evidence of defendant's
28 guilt, recognizing the possibility that argument which

1 suggested the defendant's silence was evidence of guilt
2 "might have contributed to the conviction."

3

4 In People v. Gaines (1992), 54 Cal.App. 4th 821, 826, the
5 reviewing Court reversed the defendant's conviction
6 because, after a careful review of the record, the Court
7 could not "declare an abiding conviction that the prosecutor's
8 misconduct was utterly irrelevant to the jury's verdict."
9 at p. 287, are most like our case. In Varna, the Court reversed
10 because, as in the instant case, the prosecutor argued there
11 was no exculpatory evidence when the defense was ready
12 and willing to ~~produce~~ produce it, but the prosecutor
13 blocked its admission. In Douglas, the Court reversed
14 because redaction of the defendant's statement to protect
15 a codefendant deprived the defendant of the exculpatory
16 portions of his statement.

17

18 As Counsel argued to the trial Judge, Bautista's statement
19 went to his state-of-mind at the time he spoke to the
20 police, (16 RT 2549-2550-19 RT 11433,) Petitioner's conviction
21 should be reversed because the redaction unfairly deprived
22 him of the exculpatory portions of his statement which
23 would have cast serious doubt on his intent to kidnap
24 and commit the other specific intent crimes alleged in
25 connection with the Taco Bell offenses. The prejudice
26 generated by the improper redaction was aggravated by
27 the prosecutor's use during argument of that excluded
28 material as proof of guilt. Regardless of the standard,

1 applied, on this record it cannot be said beyond a reasonable
2 doubt that the errors were harmless. The result was
3 unfair and a denial of due process. Petitioner convictions
4 should be reversed.

1 [REDACTED] Ground⁴

2 Admission of hearsay in the guise of Spontaneous
3 Statements deprived Petitioner of a fair trial and
4 Due Process

5

6 [REDACTED] The

7 Under the guise of "Spontaneous Statements," the Court
8 allowed Officer Mendoza to tell the Jury what Janette A.
9 allegedly told him in a post event interview. Both defendants
10 objected and made a joint motion to keep a running
11 motion to strike the hearsay testimony of Officer Mendoza
12 (2-CT-388). The court erred in admitting Mendoza's
13 testimony and that of Officer Gonzalez because
14 Janette's words to them were far from spontaneous.
15 Admission of the evidence was prejudicial, and
16 deprived Petitioner of a fair trial on the Taco Bell charges.

17

18 A. Standard of Review

19 whether the requirements of the spontaneous statement
20 exception have been met is largely a question of fact left
21 to the determination of the trial Court. (People v. Paggi
22 (1988) 45 Cal.3d. 306, 318).⁵ In performing this task, the Trial
23 Court necessarily exercises some element of discretion.
24 Trial Court's discretion is at its broadest when it deter-
25 mines whether the statement was made while nervous
26 excitement dominated and before the declarant had
27 an opportunity to contrive and misrepresent. (Id. at
28 pp. 317-319.) On appeal, the trial Court's factual finding

1 will not be disturbed unless the facts upon which it relied
2 are not supported by a preponderance of the evidence.
3 (People V. Trimble (1992) 5 Cal. App. 4th 1225, 1233.)

4
5 ¹⁵(cert. den. (1989) 492 U.S. 925, 109 S. Ct. 3261, 106 L. Ed. 2d.)

6
7 Deference to the trial court's exercise of discretion does not,
8 however, "transform appellate courts into mere spectators."
9 (Iott V Franklin (1988) 206 Cal. App. 3d 521, 527.) Thus,
10 notwithstanding this deferential standard of review,
11 petitioner contends the trial court's ruling admitting
12 the statements Janette allegedly made to the police
13 officers was error.

14
15 B. The trial court erred in admitting the hearsay
16 because it fell outside the ambit of
17 Evidence Code § 1240.

18
19 To render hearsay statements admissible under the
20 spontaneous declaration exception in (Evidence Code
21 1240, ¹⁶) it's required that "(1) there must be some
22 occurrence startling enough to produce this nervous excitement
23 and render the utterance spontaneous and unreflecting; (2) the utterance must have been before there
24 has been time to contrive and misrepresent, i.e., while
25 the nervous excitement may be supported still to
26 dominate and the reflective powers to be yet in
27 abeyance; and (3) the utterance must relate to the

1 occurrence preceding it" (Showalter v. Western Pacific R.R.
2 Co. (1940) 16 Cal.2d. 460, 468.)

3
4 "18 Evid. Code § 1240 Provides;

5 "Evidence of a statement is not made inadmissible by
6 the hearsay rule if the statement:

7 "(a) Purports to narrate, describe, or explain an act, condition
8 or event perceived by the declarant; and"

9 "(b) was made spontaneously while the declarant was
10 under the stress of excitement caused by such perception".

11
12 "The foundation for this exception is that if the declarations
13 are made under the immediate influence of the occurrence
14 to which they relate that they are deemed sufficiently
15 trustworthy to be presented to the jury" (Ibid.) The
16 basis for this circumstantial probability of trustworthiness
17 is that "in the stress of nervous excitement the reflective
18 faculties may be stilled and the utterance may become
19 the unreflecting and sincere expression of one's actual
20 impressions and belief." (Ibid.)

21
22 These are two aspects to spontaneous statements or
23 utterances within the meaning of Evidence Code
24 section 1240.) The first is initiated by the speaker in the
25 throes of excitement and without any prompting. This
26 type of spontaneous is reflected in (People v. Hughey
27 (1987) 194 Cal.App. 3d, 1383.) where officers approached
28 a woman yelling "Help me" three or four minute later,

1 when asked what happened, the woman stated that defendant
2 had physically assaulted her and tried to suffocate
3 her baby. This qualified as a spontaneous statement
4 (Id. at p. 1388.)

5

6 The second aspect of section 1240 is to describe actions
7 undertaken without deliberation or reflection. The latter
8 is what is intended in (Evidence Code section 1240)
9 (People v. Farmer (1989) 47 Cal.3d 888, 903.) In Farmer,
10 the Court approved admission of spontaneous statements
11 uttered in response to a lengthy police interrogation
12 because the declarant was in intense pain from gunshot
13 wounds, rightfully concerned about his survival, and
14 so preoccupied that he had little opportunity and incentive
15 to deliberate. (Id. at p. 904; see also (People v. Poggi,
16 supra 45 Cal.3d at pp. 319-320) [statements admissible
17 on facts similar to Farmer.])

18

19 At the same time, however, the Farmer Court cautioned that
20 it is a rare thing to permit the admission of answers to
21 extensive and belated questioning as spontaneous utterances.
22 (People v. Farmer, supra, 47 Cal.3d at p. 904.) In deed,
23 the general rule is that statements made in response to
24 questions posed by officers after the declarant has time to
25 reflect should not be admitted. (People v. Keelin (1955) 136
26 Cal.App.2d 860, 870) [error to admit as spontaneous
27 statements responses to questions a considerable time after
28 the event.] Further, although a time element may not be

1 mechanically applied, it is an important factor. (See also
2 Wiley v. Easter (1962) 203 Cal. App. 2d 845, 854-855).
3 [questions from a police officer some 20-60 minutes
4 after the event require the declarant to pause and think;
5 responses not spontaneous statements.]

6

7 In People v. Pearch (1991) 229 Cal. App. 3d, 1282) about
8 an hour or 45 minutes before his death, the victim's
9 called his brother, told him he was being hurt, and asked
10 to borrow money. (Id. at p. 1288.) The trial court admitted
11 the victim's statement that he was being hurt as a sponta-
12 neous statement. (Id. at p. 1289.) The reviewing court
13 disagreed because there was nothing in the record
14 suggesting the victim did not have an opportunity
15 to reflect in the interim between the time he was hurt
16 and the time of the phone call. Nothing in the record
17 showed he was in an excited [redacted] state and unable
18 to reflect or deliberate when he made that call (Id.
19 at pp. 1290-1291.) Therefore, the trial court erred in admitting
20 the victim's statements under the spontaneous declarations
21 exception to the hearsay rule. (Id. at p. 1291.) The court
22 reversed the defendant's conviction for the erroneous
23 admission of hearsay statements. (Id. at p. 1295.)

24

25 The statements in the instant case do not fall within the
26 parameters established by the statute or decisional law
27 because the declarant was not near death or suffering
28 intense pain, and because, as was the situation in Pearch,

1 Janette had ample of time to clam herself, discuss the events
2 with Martinez and her mother, brush her teeth, make phone calls
3 and deliberate before responding to the officers' questions.
4

5 When the prosecutor started to elicit from officer Mendoza
6 hearsay consisting of what Janette told him in response to
7 his question during his interview with Janette, Moran's attorney
8 objected on hearsay grounds. The Court sustained the objection.
9 (6 RT 1580-1581.) The prosecutor insisted that the hearsay was
10 admissible as a prior inconsistent statement, and not admitted
11 for the truth of the matter. Petitioner objected and sought an
12 offer of proof. (6 RT 1584.) The Court ordered the prosecutor
13 to make such an offer but not satisfied with that offer
14 delayed ruling until the following day. (6 RT 1582.)
15

16 The very next morning the defense came prepared to argue that
17 the doctrine of prior inconsistent statements did not apply.
18 (7 RT 1806-1810.) But, without notice to the defense, the prosecutor
19 changed tactics, now arguing that Janette's responses to the
20 officer's questions really were "spontaneous utterances"
21 and presenting the court with cases on that new subject. (7 RT
22 1804-1806.)
23

24 Petitioner objected vehemently because there was nothing
25 "spontaneous" about her responses to the police officer's questions.
26 The crime started at 3:15 am. The officer took her statement
27 (two hours) later. (7 RT 1813; CT 387.) The prosecutor argued
28 there was only a nine (9) minute interval between the end of

1 the crime and Officer Mendoza's interview (7 RT 1815-1816.) That
2 is a virtual impossibility. As counsel explained, the prosecutor
3 was "Playing games with the clock." (7 RT 1817-1818.) First,
4 Janette and Martinez sat in his car for ten or 15 minute after
5 their assailants left, discussed the matter and what had
6 happened to Janette, and jointly decided what to do.
7

8 "And on the way to Janette's house we were thinking and trying
9 to decide whether to make a report or not to make a report to
10 the police about the incident. [91.] And we got to the agreement
11 that we had to make a report" (4 RT 386; 5-10 5 RT 645;
12 6 RT 1319.)

14 Martinez drove Janette home (6 RT 1316-1317.) Janette told her
15 mother what happened, but thoughtfully edited what she told
16 her mother, carefully omitting all mention of the purported
17 sexual assaults. (6 RT 1317-1318.) She brushed her teeth
18 and gargled. (9 RT 3400.) Obviously concerned that Taco Bell
19 managers would believe Martinez and Janette were responsible
20 for the theft, before they called police, they called the Taco
21 Bell manager, but got no answer. Next, they called the assistant
22 store manager, but still did not get an answer. (4 RT:386-387.)

24 Finally, they were able to reach the store's shift manager and
25 explain what happened. (6 RT 321.) After all this, the police
26 were called (6 RT 1321.) Far more than nine minutes had
27 to have elapsed. And, by the time the police arrived, intervening
28 discussions and events calmed any residual stress and

1 fear (see 7-RT-1824.) In fact, immediately after the
2 interview Janette was taken to the hospital for examin-
3 ation and described as cooperative and "very quiet
4 and reserved" (9RT-3327.)

5

6 The court decided the statements were not excited utterances,
7 but spontaneous statements made without time to reflect,
8 consider, or fabricate. According to the court Janette's state-
9 ments to the officer qualified because she has "In a state
10 of shock, scared to death, hysterical" and the passage of
11 time and intervening event were not relevant (7RT 18.31.)

12 The officer testimony was admissible as a spontaneous state-
13 ment, but not as a prior inconsistent statement. (7RT 18.32.) The
14 court was mistaken because, as explained above, it was unre-
15 sonable to believe that Janette was still "under the stress of
16 excitement" (See *In re Daniel Z.* (1992) 10 Cal. App. 4th 1009,
17 1022.)

18

19 C. Erroneous Admission of the hearsay Evidence
20 was prejudicial

21

22 The jury has already heard Janette's testimony. The
23 officer who interviewed Janette, over vigorous objections,
24 was permitted to narrate from his report what Janette
25 said, thus repeating essentially the same facts Janette
26 testified about. (7RT 18.39-18.43.)

27

28 Detective Michelle Gonzalez also responded to Janette's

1 home and interviewed her. Over hearsay and section 352
2 objection's the Court permitted Detective Gonzalez to narrate
3 what Janette said to her, expanding on Janette's testimony
4 and going sentence by sentence from her report. (RT 1905-1914,
5 1916-1918.) The court overruled the objection because every-
6 thing Janette told officer Gonzalez were "Spontaneous
7 statement." (RT 1920-1926.) The officer said that Janette said
8 that her assailant was a short, chubby, dark haired Hispanic.
9 (RT 1927.) The officer continued to repeat what Janette
10 purportedly told her (RT 1927-1930.)

12 The jury should not have heard Janette's tale over and again
13 from the officers in the guise of spontaneous statements. Import-
14 antly, unlike the cases the prosecutor cited, there was no immediacy
15 to Janette's statements to the officers. There were superseding
16 intervening factors; time had passed. (RT 1817-1819.) Still, through
17 the officers the jury heard anew everything Janette had already
18 testified about- thus doubling and tripling the pre-judicial effect
19 of her testimony. (RT 1839-1843.) Having heard the details from Janette,
20 repetition of those details could have had no other effect than to inflame
21 the passions of the jury. That is pre-judice.

23 Petitioner concedes that if this was the only error in this very lengthy trial,
24 it would not be necessarily be so pre-judicial as to constitute a due process
25 violation and reversible error. But, it does so when considered in conjunction
26 with the multiple error. in this case Accordingly as in People v. Bautista,
27 Petitioner's conviction of the Taco Bell offenses should be reversed for the
28 erroneous admission of hearsay evidence in the guise of spontaneous statements
once this pre-judicial evidentiary error undoubtedly affected the jury's deliberation on all counts.

Ground #5

1 THE VERDICTS IN COUNTS 8, 9, AND 10 THE EL POLLO LOCO
 2 INCIDENT, SHOULD BE REVERSED FOR INSUFFICIENT
 3 EVIDENCE.

4
 5 There is insufficient evidence to support Petitioner
 6 Batista's convictions of the counts related to the
 7 El Pollo Loco offenses.

8
 9 A. Standard Review

10 "The proper test for determining a claim of insufficiency
 11 of the evidence in a criminal case is whether, on the
 12 entire record a rational trier of fact could find the
 13 defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. On
 14 appeal, [the reviewing court] must view the evidence
 15 in the light most favorable to the people and must presume
 16 in support of the judgment the evidence of every fact
 17 the trier could reasonably deduce from the evidence."

18 People vs Jones (1990) 51 Cal. 3d 294, 314; People vs Johnson
 19 (1980) 26 Cal. 3d 557, 572)

20
 21 The evidence must be substantial; it is not enough for the
 22 respondent to point to some evidence (People vs Johnson,
 23 *supra*, 26 Cal. 3d at p. 572) For evidence to be "substantial" it
 24 must be reasonable, credible, and of solid value (*Id.* at p. 576.)
 25 The "evidence" may have been sufficient to connect Moran
 26 to the El Pollo Loco offenses, but the identifications of
 27 Petitioner were far too amorphous to constitute substantial
 28 evidence connecting him to the crimes.

1. B. BECAUSE THE EYEWITNESS IDENTIFICATIONS WERE NOT
2. CREDIBLE, APPELLANT'S CONVICTIONS SHOULD BE REVERED

3.
4. It is now well established that eyewitness identification
5. of strangers is extremely unreliable. "The vagaries of
6. eyewitness identification are well known; the annals of
7. Criminal Law are rife with instances of mistaken ident-
8. ification." (United States *vs* Wade (1967) 388 U.S. 218, 288,
9. 82, S. Ct. 1936, 18 L. Ed. 2d 1149.) As our Supreme Court
10. has observed;

11.
12. "There is great potential for misidentification when a witness
13. identifies a stranger based solely upon a single brief
14. observation and this risk is increased when the observation
15. was made at a time of stress or excitement.... [T]his [1]
16. danger is inherent in every identification of this kind.
17. The problem is important because of all the evidence
18. that may be presented to a jury, a witness' in-court
19. statement that 'he is the one' is probably the most dram-
20. atic and persuasive." *People vs McDonald* (1984) 32 Cal.
21. 3d. 351, 363-364.¹⁹ quoting *United States vs Russell* (6 Cir.,
22. 1976) 532 F.2d 1063, 1066.)

23.
24. There were four witnesses who testified about the El Pollo
25. Loco burglary, Laura, Black, Ivan, Estrada, Nancy Salangsang,
26. and Martin Ocas. Estrada was not able to identify anyone,
27. (HRT 4571.) Black was able to identify Moran from a photo six-pack
28. (10,2 Position) and in court only as "someone who most resembled

1. the man with the gun.

2. ¹⁹ Overruled on another point in People vs Mendoza (2000).

3. 23 Cal. 4th 896, 914.

4. 5. (77 RT 4276, 4289, 4295, 4301.) Black was unable to identify Bautista in a lineup or in court (11 RT 4292-4294.)

6. Cross-racial identifications are among the most unreliable.

7. People vs McDonald, *supra* 37 Cal 3d at p 364 & fn 9.)

8. Nancy Salangsang a Filipino woman who testified through a Tagalog interpreter, described the man who grabbed her, pressed a gun into her back, and pushed her into the kitchen and thence into a back office, as neither fat nor thin (11 RT 4578-4580 12 RT 5108) Petitioner is a short Hispanic man. He is "heavy-set" and "fat" (5 RT 657-658.)

9. Salangsang did not recognize anyone in a photo six pack containing Petitioner's picture or in a live lineup (12 RT 14842, 4863, 4823.) Nonetheless, in court Salangsang

10. purportedly identified Petitioner who is very heavy, as the "neither fat nor thin" man who grabbed her (11 RT 4578; 12 RT 4829.) The prosecutor did her best to confuse Salangsang and suggest to the jury that she did identify

11. Bautista before trial when she did not. (see 12 RT 4815-4824.) The court blithely overruled repeated objections that the prosecutor was twisting the truth and misleading the jury. (12 RT 4817.)

12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28.

1 In view of the vast difference in the description Salang-
2 sang gave right after the crime and Petitioner's actual
3 appearance, her inability to pick him out of a photo array
4 or live lineup shortly after the crimes, the prosecutor's
5 unwillingness to accept the fact that salang sang did
6 not identify Petitioner before trial, and considering
7 the unreliability of crossracial identification's, Salang-
8 Sang's in-court identifications two years after the
9 fact lacks all credibility.

10
11 That leaves Martin Oros. After the robbery, Oros described
12 one of the robbers as a white male 5'6" tall clean shaven,
13 and thin ²⁰ (12 RT 4511.) Again Petitioner Bautista is obviously
14 "Hispanic and fat" neither "white" or "thin." In the prosecutor's
15 direct examination she raise so many exhibits numbers and
16 asked so many misleading questions that Oros ~~begame~~ ^{begame} so
17 hopelessly confused it is virtually impossible to determine
18 who he had identify and when (12 RT 4505-4509.)
19 In fact, Oros admitted he was confused by which lineups
20 the prosecutor's asked about in her direct examination
(12 RT 4522.) This makes his in-court identification
21 (12 RT 4504) of Bautista as the ~~thin~~ thin, white man who hit
22 him in the face at El Pollo Loco unbelievable. Oros' identi-
23 fication of Bautista is lacking all reasonable, credible,
24 solid value.

25
26
27 All of these witness were under extreme stress in a violent
28 situation controlled by at least one man with a gun,

1. psychological factors recognized as leading to
2. misidentifications (People vs McDonald *supra* 37 Cal
3. 3d at pp. 362, 375-376.) In addition, the misidentification
4. of strangers is highly suspect when no other evidence
5. connects the accused to the crime (Id at pp. 360, 363.)
6. In the instant case, nothing - no fingerprints, no fore-
7. nsic of any kind - connected Petitioner to the El Pollo
8. Loco burglary and robberies. Petitioner's convictions of
9. Counts 8, 9 and 10 should be reversed for want of
10. sufficient evidence.

11.
12. ²⁰ Deas described the second man as a male Hispanic wearing
13. a blue baseball cap. He did not see this man face although
14. he heard him speak spanish (IART 4512) However, a blue
15. cap was identified as belonging to codefendant Moran.

16.
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Ground #6

71

1. INSTRUCTIONAL ERRORS DEPRIVED APPELLANT OF A FAIR TRIAL
 2. AND DUE PROCESS

3. _____

4. Court and counsel argued and fought over jury instructions
 5. in marathon sessions held over seven days and continuing
 6. even after the jury began deliberating - with the prosecutor
 7. generally prevailing (2 CT 445, 450, 454, 458, 463, 466).
 8. In the end there were at least two serious instructional
 9. errors. The first was CALJIC NO. 3.00/3.02,²¹ a hybrid
 10. instruction in which the prosecution grafted a portion
 11. of the natural probable consequences doctrine onto the
 12. aiding and abetting instruction, but failed to identify
 13. target offenses or which crimes were the unintended
 14. result of the target crimes. The second was not limiting
 15. CALJIC NO. 2.06 to defendant, Moran when it was his
 16. family members who allegedly threatened Janette A.²²
 17. This error infected the conviction of both the Taco Bell
 18. charges and the El Pallejaca charges.

19. _____

20. ²¹ CALJIC NO. 3.00 provides:
 21. "Persons who are involved in a [committing] or [attempting
 22. to commit] a crime are referred to as principals in that
 23. crime. Each principal, regardless of the extent or manner
 24. of participation is equally guilty. Principals include: [1] 1.
 25. Those who directly and actively [commit] or [attempt to
 26. commit] the act constituting the crime, or [9] 2. Those who
 27. aid and abet the [commission] or [attempted commission] 1.
 28. of the crime."

1 CAL JJC NO. 3.02 Provides:
2 "One who aids and abets [another] in the commission of a
3 crime [or crimes] is not only guilty of [that crime] [those
4 crimes], but is also guilty of any other crime ~~committed~~
5 by a principal which is a natural and probable consequence
6 of the crime[s] originally aided and abetted."
7 "In order to find the defendant guilty of the crime[s] of
8 [as charged in Count[s] _____] you must be satisfied beyond
9 a reasonable doubt that:
10 1 The crime [or crimes] of _____ was [were] committed;
11 2 That the defendant aided and abetted [that] [those crimes];
12 3 That co-principal in that crime committed the [crime] of _____ and
13 4 The crime[s] of _____ was [were] a natural and probable consequence
14 of the commission of the crime[s] of _____."
15

16 A Scope and Standard of Review
17 A trial court has a duty to instruct on the general
18 principles of law relevant to the issues raised by the evidence,
19 that is, those closely and openly connected with the facts
20 before the court which are necessary for the jury's under-
21 standing of the case. *People vs. Sedeno* (1924) 10 Cal. 3d.
22 703, 715, ²³ quoting *People vs. St. Martin* (1920) 1 Cal. 3d. 524,
23 531.) A criminal defendant is entitled to accurate
24 jury instructions. (See, e.g., *People vs. LeCava* (2003)
25 109 Cal. App. 4th 1058, 1070, reversing conviction
26 because of erroneous instructions.)

22
1 CALJIC NO. 2.06, instructs:
2 "If you find that a defendant attempted to suppress evidence
3 against [himself] [herself] in any manner, such as [by]
4 the intimidation of a witness [by an offer to compensate
5 a witness] [by destroying evidence] [by concealing
6 evidence] [by], this attempt may be considered by
7 you as a circumstance tending to show a conscious-
8 ness of guilt. However, this conduct is not sufficient
9 by itself to prove guilt, and its weight and signifi-
10 cance, if any, are for you to decide."

11
12 23 Overruled on another point in *People vs Blakeley*
13 (2000) 23 Cal. 4th 82, 89.

14
15 In reviewing a claim of instructional error, the Court
16 considers the jury instructions as a whole in the
17 context of the charge and ~~the entire trial record~~
18 (*People vs Haskett* (1990) 52 Cal. 3d 210, 235.) An inaccurate
19 or misleading instruction is grounds for reversal
20 when it cannot be said that the instruction was
21 harmless beyond a reasonable doubt. *People v Lee*
22 (1987) 43 Cal. 3d 666, 676, *Chapman vs California*,
23 *supra*, 386 U.S. at p. 24.

24
25 B. NO PART OF CALJIC NO. 3.02 should have been crafted
26 onto NO 3.00. Because the Prosecution's Theory was both
27 Defendants were Principals.

1 This is the instructions the Court gave over multiple objections;

2
3 "One who aids and abets another in the commission of a
4 crime is not only guilty of that crime, but is also
5 guilty of any other crime committed by the principal,
6 which is a natural and probable consequence of
7 the crime originally aided and abetted."

8
9 "whether a consequence is natural and probable is an
10 objective test based not on what the defendant actually
11 intended, but what a person of reasonable and ordinary
12 prudence would have expected would be likely to occur."

13
14 "The issue is to be decided in light of all of the circumstances surrounding the incident."

15
16 "A natural consequence is one which is within the normal
17 range of outcome that may be reasonably expected to
18 occur if nothing unusual has intervened.

19
20 "Probable means likely to happen." (17 RT 8720-8721.)²⁴

21
22
23 We start with the basic principal that accomplice
24 instructions should not be given when the defendant is
25 charged as a principal. People vs Prettyman (1996) 14 Cal.
26 4th 248, 268-269 [instruction should not been given
27 when prosecution has not elected to rely on that particular
28 theory of accomplice liability] People vs Brown supra 31 Cal.

14 that p 559.) As this Court has observed:

11
12 The trial should grant a prosecutor's request that the
13 jury be instructed on the natural and probable
14 consequences' rule only when (1) the record contains
15 substantial evidence that the defendant intended
16 to encourage or assist a confederate in committing a
17 Target offense, and (2) the jury could reasonably find
18 that the crime actually committed by the defendant's
19 confederate was a natural and probable consequence
20 of the specifically contemplated target offense. If
21 this test is not satisfied, an instruction should not be
22 given, even if specifically requested." People vs. Gonzalez
23 (2002) 99 Cal. App. 4th 475, 485, quoting People vs. Dawson
24 (1992) 60 Cal. App. 4th 534, 544, emphasis added.)

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1 Consequence doctrine should never have been given either.

2
3 Instruction No. 300 was defective because the Court never
4 defined the target crimes.

5
6 In People vs Prettyman, supra, 44 Cal. 4th 248, the Court held that
7 when a trial court instructs on the "natural and probable
8 consequences" doctrine, the court must identify and describe
9 the target crimes contemplated by the defendant. Otherwise,
10 there is a risk that the jury will "indulge in unguided
11 speculation." (Id. at p. 272) It is error to give the instruction
12 without expressly defining any target offenses. People
13 vs Sakarias (2000) 22 Cal. 4th 596, 627, 628.)

14
15 Appellant has preserved the error for appellate review. Court
16 and Counsel engaged in lengthy discussions as to
17 whether the Court should accede to the prosecutor's request
18 for CALJIC No 3.02 on natural and probable consequences
19 should be given. (3 CT 529; 14 RT 630; 16 RI 9558-2526.)

20 The Court decided not to give it because

21
22 "The way it's presently worded is more confusing to the
23 members of the jury than not, I and I it does not help the
24 Jury to give 3.02... if we can't ourselves agree it makes
25 absolutely no sense to give it to the Jury who have not been
26 trained in legal analysis and would be further confused;
27 would send questions out, no doubt trying to get a handle
28 on what 3.02 says [91]. And to me, this case is not all that

1 difficult from a legal analysis. I just don't see any point
2 in giving them 3.02 (16 RT 1566; 3 CT 529)

3
4 After the Court ruled that No. 3.02 would not be given
5 because "it would confuse this jury" the prosecutor with-
6 drew the instruction. (16 RT 1526-1527) The next day
7 the prosecutor submitted a new instruction which
8 appended one concept from No. 3.02 onto No. 3.00:

9
10 "One who aids and abets another in the commission of a crime,
11 is not only guilty of that crime, but is also guilty of any
12 other crime committed by the principal, which is a natural
13 and probable consequence of the crime originally aided
14 and abetted" (17 RT 8440.)

15
16 Appellant objected and move for a mistrial because "natural
17 and probable" was not defined. The prosecutor's instruction
18 did not explain to the jury what a target crime is or
19 which crimes this newly-submitted instruction involved
20 (15 RT 8114-8118.)

21
22 "I can see the jury looking at this and saying, well,
23 we can convict Bautista for a crime because he aided
24 and abetted. Mr. Moran, when the intention of this
25 instruction when given originally was how would
26 this conduct of Mr. Bautista affect Mr. Moran"
27 (16 RT 8117-20-21.)

1 "This just gives a blank three-line statement of the law which
2 may or not be accurate. But it doesn't explain natural and
3 probable consequence as 3.00 did. (17) The court said, well
4 3.00 is too confusing for us; so, therefore it will be too confusing
5 for the jury. So, to give them this three line paragraph
6 and not define this concept for them is grossly misleading"
7 (16 RT 8118:1-7.)

8

9 The court overruled the objection and denied the motion
10 for mistrial (16 RT 8116, 8118; 17 RT 8403.) The court was
11 "not convinced that it would be a reversible error or so
12 prejudicial that it would be a denial of due process" to give
13 the prosecutor's instruction. (17 RT 8445.)

14

15 After the court ruled it would give the prosecutor's requested
16 instruction, the court invited counsel to submit his own
17 instruction if he was unhappy with the prosecutor's
18 submission (16 RT 8119.) But, when counsel examined the packet
19 of "final" instructions the court assembled for the jury, the
20 offending natural and probable consequence language had
21 been deleted from NO. 3.00. This led counsel to believe that
22 the court reconsidered and struck that language (17 RT 8441
23 8443-8444.)

24

25 However, when reading the instruction to the jury, the court gave
26 the prosecutor's modified version of NO. 3.00. This immediately
27 brought the attorneys to their feet. They learned that the "final"
28 packet the court provided to them and the jurors did not

1 match the court's packet because neither the defense attorneys
2 nor the jurors had the prosecutor's NO. 3.00. Appellant
3 renewed his objection. (12 RT 8441) The Court then advised
4 the jurors it would give them the modified version of
5 NO. 3.00 thus calling specific attention to that instruction
6 above all others. (12 RT 8440-8443.) Counsel ask the Court
7 not to further highlight NO. 3.00 until the Court heard further
8 argument on the instruction. (12 RT 8486.)

9
10 Appellant objected anew. The borrowed sentence is part of
11 a more complete instruction which was not clear. There are parts
12 of NO. 3.02 that are necessary for the jury's understanding
13 including the definition of natural and probable consequences
14 and target offenses. (12 RT 8447.) Appellant asked that
15 further language from NO. 3.02 defining the phrase "natural
16 and probable consequences" be added to NO. 3.00 (12 RT 8708
17-8709.) Appellant concluded, "I don't think the sentence
18 [the prosecutor inserted from NO. 3.02] should be added. But
19 if the Court is bent on adding it define it" (12 RT 8709:25-28.)
20 In doing so however, appellant expressly preserved his objection
21 to the grafting of some language from 3.02 onto 3.00 (12 RT 8714.)
22 The Court decided to give the remodification. (12 RT 8711.)

23
24 The natural and probable consequences doctrine is triggered
25 when the perpetrator ultimately commits some different or
26 additional crime than the intended offense (People vs. Culukko
27 (2000) 78 Cal App 4th 302, 322.) Thus "identification of the target
28 crime will facilitate the jury's task of determining whether

1 the charged crime allegedly committed by the aider and
2 abettor's confederate was indeed a natural and probable
3 consequence of any uncharged target crime that the
4 prosecution contends the defendant knowingly and intentionally
5 aided and abetted." People vs Prettyman, supra, 14 Cal 4th at p.267)

6
7 The biggest flaw in the hybrid instruction was that neither
8 the target crimes nor the crime that was the natural and
9 probable consequence of the target crime were neither identified
10 although the erroneous instruction affected nearly half of the
11 charges, Counts 1, 2, 6, 7, 11. Contrary to the prosecution's
12 contention, descriptions of the charged offenses in the jury
13 instruction cannot suffice for identification of target crimes
14 which in turn led to some other crime (19 RT 11412.) As noted
15 above, the failure to identify and define target crimes renders
16 the instruction erroneous. (People vs Sakarias, supra, 22 Cal.
17 4th at pp. 627-628; see also People vs Hickles (1991) 56 Cal.
18 App 4th 1183-1193-1195.) Failure to identify target crimes
19 is prejudicial error; People vs Mouton (1983) 15 Cal. App.
20 4th 1313, 1315 (same).²⁵

21
22 2. MODIFIED INSTRUCTION NO. 8.00 GENERATED IRREPARABLE
23 PREJUDICE.

24
25 In Prettyman, the court found the failure to identify a
26 target crime was harmless beyond a reasonable doubt
27 because there was only one potential target crime
28 shown by the evidence, assault with a deadly weapon.

1 which led to the natural and probable consequence of
2 murder. (People vs. Pettyman, supra, 14 Cal. 4th at p. 267.)
3 In sharp contrast, in (People vs. Hickles, supra 56 Cal. App.
4 4th 1183, the evidence would have supported a number
5 of different factual scenarios. In reversing the conviction,
6 the court observed:

7 Overruled on another point in (People vs. Pettyman, supra
8 14 Cal. 4th at p. 238.)

10 "While it is clear not all of those scenarios would support
11 a natural and probable consequences finding as a matter
12 of law, it is not obvious a jury of lay persons, lacking instruction
13 on target offenses, would not have viewed murder as a natural
14 and probable consequence of a simple assault or even an
15 argument, perhaps on a generalized view that things can get
16 out of hand in such altercations" (Id. at pp. 1197-1198.)

18 Assuming the instruction should have been given at all there
19 are multiple scenarios here, too. There were 11 counts against
20 each defendant, susceptible to varying mixing and matching
21 of target and unintended offenses. It is impossible to
22 know what the jury did with the incomplete instruction.
23 It is reasonably likely, however, that the jury package d
24 one or more of the robbery and burglary offenses as the
25 unintended consequence of a kidnap for rape. In the
26 alternative the jury could have decided that the sexual
27 offenses were the unintended consequence of kidnap for robbery.
28

1 I sum, the instruction is woefully incomplete. It did not
2 identify the target offense, did not set forth the idea of a
3 further crime being a natural and probable consequence
4 of the target offense, did not define natural and probable
5 consequences as being an objective test, not a subjective
6 test. It allowed the jury to think that natural and
7 probable consequences meant that if you engage in
8 an intent to commit a burglary, anything thereafter that
9 happens is the natural and probable consequence of being
10 a criminal. It was that broad. It was that ill-defined.
11 The defective instruction left the jury rudderless.

12
13 Petitioner convictions should be reversed because it cannot be
14 said beyond a reasonable doubt that erroneous instruction
15 No. 3.00 was harmless beyond a reasonable doubt. (People vs
16 Hickles, *supra*, 56 Cal. App. 4th at p. 1198; People vs Giardino (2000)
17 82 Cal App. 4th 454, 470, 471 [Failure to define required element
18 not harmless error, I]; People vs LeCorno, *supra*, 109 Cal App. 4th
19 at p. 1070 [Failure to define "Knowledge" not harmless beyond
20 a reasonable doubt]).

21
22 C. THE TRIAL COURT ERRED IN NOT LIMITING CALJIC NO. 2.06
23 TO CODEFENDANT MORAN BECAUSE IT WAS HIS FAMILY WHO
24 ALLEGEDLY THREATENED PROSECUTION WITNESS JANETTE A.

25
26 A member or members of codefendant Moran's family allegedly
27 threatened prosecution witness Janette A. if she testified.
28 Over Moran's objections, the court instructed with CALJIC

1 NO 2.06 on witness intimidation, but did not limit the instruction
2 to Codefendant Moran. This was error because the instruction
3 should never have been given in the first instance.
4 Moreover, petitioner Bautista was just an unrelated taxi
5 driver. (2 CT 287.) There was no evidence he was related
6 to Moran's extended family, or that he played any role
7 in the alleged threats.

8
9 1. CALJIC NO. 2.06 should not have been given.

10
11 Codefendant Moran objected at the length to this instruction
12 because there was no evidence he had anything to do with the
13 alleged threats to Janette and directed the court's attention
14 to People vs. Williams (1992) 16 Cal. 4th 153. ²⁶ (13 RT 5727-5732;
15 ²⁷ 14 RT 6358-6360.)

16 THE COURT INSTRUCTED:

17
18 If you find that an effort to suppress evidence was made
19 by another person for the defendant's benefit, you may
20 not consider that effort as tending to show the defendant's
21 consciousness of guilt, unless you also find that the
22 defendant authorized that effort.

23
24 "If you find defendant authorized the effort, that conduct
25 is not sufficient by itself to prove guilt and it's [sic]
26 weight and significance, if any, are for you to decide
27 (17 RT 8426-8427.)

26

1 Cert. den. (1998) 532 U.S. 1150, 118 S. Ct. 1169, 140 L.Ed.2d.

2 179.

3 Appellant Bautista did not object to the instruction
4 or ask that it be limited to Moran. Bautista seeks
5 Appellate review pursuant to section 1259 which provides
6 for review despite the absence of an objection where
7 as here, the "substantial rights" of the defendant are
8 affected. 2.06 error reviewed under section 1259.)

9

10 In Williams, the Court reiterated the rule that a witness
11 intimidation instruction should not be given in the absence of
12 evidence that the defendant authorized the threat.

13

14 "Generally, evidence of the attempt of third person to suppress
15 testimony is inadmissible against a defendant where the
16 effort did not occur in his presence. However, if the defendant
17 has authorized the attempt of the third person to suppress
18 testimony, evidence of such conduct is admissible against
19 the defendant." (People vs. Williams, *Supra*, 16 Cal. 4th at
20 p. 200, quoting (People vs. Hannon, *Supra*, 19 Cal. 3d at p. 599.)
21 internal punctuation and citation omitted.)

22

23 Proof of a criminal defendant's mere opportunity to
24 authorize a third person to attempt to influence a witness
25 has no value as circumstantial evidence that the defendant
26 did so. (People vs. Williams, *Supra*, 16 Cal. 4th at p. 200.) quoting
27 People vs. Terry (1962) 57 Cal. 2d 538, 566.) In People vs.
28 Hannon, *Supra*, 19 Cal. 3d at p. 599, the Court held it was

1 reversible error to instruct with No. 2.06 because the evidence
2 failed "to supply the necessary nexus between defendant
3 and the alleged suppression of evidence" In People vs.
4 Terry *supra*, 57 Cal.2d 538, the Court held that circumstantial
5 evidence in the form of personal relationships do not establish
6 that the defendant himself authorized an attempt to suppress
7 evidence. Because of the instructional error on this point
8 during the penalty phase, the Court reversed the death
9 sentence. (*Id.* at pp. 565-566.)

10

11 The instruction on the instant case rests of the circumstantial
12 evidence of Moran's familial and personal relationships.
13 Janette's friend and neighbor, Karla Campos, is the girlfriend
14 of Guillermo "Meno" Sandoval, the third man involved
15 in the robberies (5RT 984, 1005, 1031; 2 CT 283.) Janette also
16 knows Lidia Batres, Meno's sister, and their brother, Carlos.
17 Another of Janette's friends is Karina, whose boy friend
18 is Carlos (5RT 985, 1013, 1031.) Co-defendant Moran was
19 related to Janette's friends, although she denied knowing
20 this (6RT 1234-1235) see also 13RT 5231.

21

22 Two weeks before the Taco Bell burglary, Lidia Batres
23 called Janette and threatened her, "Take care of your back."
24 But maybe it was not Ms Batres calling (Compare 5RT
25 1018, 1022, with 6RT 1240.) Janette reported the threat
26 to the investigating officer. (5RT 1023-1049.) Two
27 weeks after the Taco Bell incident, Meno called Janette's
28 mother and told her to stop Janette from making accusations

1 about a robbery. (5RT-1024.) Another threatening call came
2 from Bates (5RT-1024-1025.)

3
4 These extended family and interpersonal relationships
5 are the only nexus between Moran and the alleged
6 threat. The evidence fall far short of that required
7 by Williams, Hannon and Terry. The instruction
8 should not have been given at all. In the alternative,
9 the Court should have limited the instruction to Moran.

10
11 2. BY NOT LIMITING THE INSTRUCTION TO MORAN, THE COURT
12 INVITED THE TURY TO SPECULATE THAT APPELLANT BAUTISTA
13 WAS IN ON THE THREATS

14
15 Evidence Code section 355 provides, "When evidence is admissible
16 as to one party or for one purpose and is inadmissible
17 as to another party or for another purpose, the court
18 upon request shall restrict the evidence to its proper
19 scope and instruct the jury accordingly." Hence, appellant
20 was entitled to have CalJIC NO. 2.06 limited to Code-
21 Plaintiff Moran. (People vs Perry (1972) 7 Cal 3d 756,
22 787-788.)

23
24 In Perry, defendant Redman argued that the trial court
25 erred in failing to instruct the jury that evidence
26 discovered in Perry's car was admissible only against Perry
27 and solely for the purpose of establishing flight. The court
28 agreed Redmon was entitled to the instruction, but rejected

1 the claim because Redman had not asked for a limiting instruction.
2 (Ibid.) However, the opinion does not address review
3 under section 1259, or ineffective assistance of counsel
4 for not seeking a limiting instruction. Cases are not authority
5 for propositions not considered. (People vs Saunders (1993)
6 5 Cal. 4th 580, 592, fn. 8.) In the instant case, appellant
7 Bautista seek review and reversal under section 1259
8 because his substantial rights are at issue. (See discussion
9 at p. 80 fn. 27, *supra*.) In the alternative, his conviction
10 should be reversed for ineffective assistance of counsel
11 because a reasonably competent attorney would have
12 asked that CALJIC NO. 2.06 be limited to co-defendant
13 Moran. (See discussion at pp. 35-36 *supra*.)

14
15 Because the jury was not instructed that the alleged threats
16 to Janette had nothing to do with Bautista, the jury was
17 free to speculate that if Bautista was being tried with
18 Moran, he must have been part and parcel of the threats.
19 Therefore, it cannot be said beyond a reasonable doubt
20 that this instructional did not error contribute to the
21 verdict.

22
23 D. APPELLANT BAUTISTA'S CONVICTIONS SHOULD BE
24 REVERSED FOR PRETRIDICIAL INSTRUCTIONAL ERRORS.
25

26 It cannot be seriously disputed that hybrid instruction
27

28

1. number 3.00/3.02, was grossly defective. This instruction
2. could only have led to rampant speculation among the
3. jurors. Not can it be seriously argued that CALTIC NO.
4. 2.06, if given at all should have been limited to Codefendant
5. Moran because it was his family members who purportedly
6. delivered the threats to Janet. This instruction undoubtedly
7. misled the jurors into believing they could include
8. appellant Bautista as one of the persons directing the
9. intimidation of Janet, and from that draw an inference
10. of guilt.

11
12. For all of the reasons given in this section, the trial Courts' error cannot survive (Chapman) review because the record does not demonstrate "beyond a reasonable doubt that the error complained of did not contribute to the verdict obtained" (People vs. Tersen (2003) 114 Cal. App. 4th 224, 239, quoting People vs. Harris (1994) 9 Cal. 4th 402, 424). Appellant's convictions on all counts should be reversed for instructional error. (Chapman vs. California *supra*, 386 U.S. at p. 21.)

21
22. Ground #

23. CUMULATIVE ERROR IN THIS CLOSE CASE DEPRIVED
24. APPELLANT OF A FAIR TRIAL AND CONSTITUTED A
25. MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE

26.
27. Should this Court decide the verdicts on counts 8, 9, and
28. 10 are supported by substantial evidence, the judgment

1 of conviction on all counts connected to both sets of offenses
2 nonetheless should be reversed for cumulative error. The
3 trial was fraught with prejudicial errors, including
4 multiple incidents of prosecutorial misconduct which
5 started during voir dire and did not stop until the prosec-
6 utor got in the final and false word during her closing
7 arguments.

8

9 A. THE MANY ERRORS CREATED IRREPARABLE PREJUDICE

10

11 The occurrence of many errors which, if considered separately,
12 might not be deemed seriously prejudicial are a ground
13 for reversal in a close case. The cumulative effect of
14 multiple errors is sufficient to warrant the conclusion
15 that the trial was unfair and hence a miscarriage of
16 justice occurred. (People vs. Hill supra, 17 Cal. 4th at p.
17 844.) In Hill trial errors included prosecutorial miscon-
18 duct and instructional error with respect to intent to
19 kill. The court held that the number of instances of
20 prosecutorial misconduct considered with other errors
21 created a negative effect that made overall unfairness
22 greater than the sum of individual errors and required
23 reversal. (Id. at pp. 844-842.)

24

25 In People vs. Cuccia (2002) 97 Cal. App. 4th 285, 295, reversal
26 was required where there was a reasonable probability
27 the jury would have reached a mere favorable verdict
28 but for the ~~error~~ in People vs. Hernandez (2003) 30 Cal.